1/6/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of January 6, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACK, OTHER IRON WORKERS IN MINNESOTA CERTIFIED FOR JOBLESS AID

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

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Week of January 6, 1986

BLACK, OTHER IRON WORKERS IN MINNESOTA CERTIFIED FOR JOBLESS AID

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that up to 840 iron workers, including blacks, of the Eveleth Taconite Company in Eveleth, Minnesota, have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

Certified workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search, relocation allowances and other employment-related assistance.

Workers produced taconite pellets (iron ore) at the Oglebay Norton facility of the company. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job at this facility on or after Aug. 1, 1984, is eligible to apply for TAA benefits under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducted the fact-finding investigation which provided the basis for the certification.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance in Minnesota. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of payments minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of cash benefits.

The employment security agency in Minnesota will administer assistance through local offices.

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Workers eligible for trade adjustment assistance may receive a relocation allowance to help them move their families and household goods to their new area of employment, plus a lump sum payment -- not to exceed $600 -- to help them get settled. Workers may be paid 90 percent of their moving expenses, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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The Trade Adjustment Assistance program provides cash benefits called trade readjustment allowances, employability services, training, and job search and relocation allowances to workers displaced from their jobs because of increased foreign imports, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics uses a scientific sample of homes, designed and selected by the Census Bureau, to prepare its monthly Employment Situation report, according to a Labor Department fact sheet.

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The U.S. Department of Labor's Division of Cooperative Labor-Management Programs works with national unions, trade associations, productivity and quality of work life centers, and other organizations and government agencies in promoting joint labor-management solutions to workplace problems.

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1/13/86

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Week of January 13, 1985

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGES DOWN IN DECEMBER

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers edged down in December, from 15.6 to 14.9 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The unemployment rate for black adult men edged down from 13.7 to 13.1 percent in December, while the jobless rate for black adult women moved down from 13.6 to 12.6 percent.

December's unemployment rate for black youth was 41.6 percent; it was 40.8 percent in November.

The jobless rates for white and Hispanic workers were about unchanged over the month. The unemployment rate for white workers was unchanged at 5.9 percent, while the rate for Hispanic workers was 10.4 percent; it was 10.6 percent in November.

The Nation's overall unemployment rate was 6.8 percent, and the civilian worker rate was 6.9 percent. While little different from November, both rates were below those which had prevailed throughout most of 1985.

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--rose by 320,000 in December to 99.1 million. Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--edged up by 240,000 to 108.2 million. Although both surveys showed substantial job growth in 1985, gains were less than were recorded in the prior 2 years.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The December unemployment level (8.0 million) and the civilian worker unemployment rate (6.9 percent) were little different from their November levels, after seasonal adjustment. Both figures, however, were below those prevailing throughout most of 1985. Jobless rates for most worker groups were about unchanged in December, including those for adult men (5.9 percent), adult women (6.2 percent), teenagers (18.8 percent), whites (5.9 percent), blacks (14.9 percent), and Hispanics (10.4 percent). During the course of 1985, jobless rates for adult men, adult women, and whites declined, whereas rates for teenagers, blacks, and Hispanics have shown no improvement.

(more)

Both measures of average duration of unemployment have changed little in recent months. Median duration remained at 6.9 weeks in December, while mean duration was 15.4 weeks. These measures have declined from late 1984 levels. The number of job losers was about unchanged over the month but was somewhat below year-earlier levels.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment edged up to a level of 108.2 million in December. Over the year, the number of jobholders rose by 2 million, with adult women accounting for 70 percent of the gain. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs--the employment-population ratio--reached a record high of 60.4 percent in December. Among occupational groups, the largest gains during the year occurred in managerial and professional, administrative support, and service jobs.

The civilian labor force, at 116.2 million in December, was little changed over the month. Over the year, the labor force rose by 1.8 million, with adult women accounting for an even larger share of the labor force growth (80 percent) than of employment.

Discouraged Workers (Household Survey Data)

At 1.2 million in the fourth quarter, the number of discouraged workers--persons who report that they want a job but are not looking for one because they believe their search would be futile--was about the same as the levels in the first 3 quarters of the year. Despite an over-the-year decline in the number of blacks reporting discouragement over job prospects, they continued to represent a disproportionate share of discouraged workers--about 1 in 3, or three times their share of the labor force.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls increased by 320,000 in December to 99.1 million, after seasonal adjustment. Job gains were widespread, as the BLS diffusion index registered 65 percent. The payroll total was 3.0 million above the year-earlier level.

Continuing the pattern of recent growth, the bulk of the December employment expansion occurred in the service-producing sector, which increased by 260,000. The over-the-month expansion was once again paced by services, which rose by 115,000, with most of this gain taking place in business and health services. Elsewhere in the sector, there were modest increases in wholesale trade and finance, insurance and real estate. In retail trade, seasonal hirings in general merchandise stores were below the expected holiday levels, but there was growth in eating and drinking places, so that the overall job count in the industry was about unchanged in December, after seasonal adjustment.

In the goods-producing sector, employment increased by 60,000. In contrast to nearly continuous job losses between January and September, manufacturing employment edged up for the third month in a row. The December gain of 45,000 reflected small but widespread increases throughout both the durable and nondurable goods industries. Manufacturing job growth since September totaled 140,000. Construction employment was little

(more)

changed for the second straight month, following several months of substantial growth. The number of construction jobs was up 290,000 over the year. Mining employment was about unchanged in December.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged up in December to 35.1 hours, after seasonal adjustment. Weekly hours in manufacturing rose 0.3 hour to 41.0 hours, a very high level, and factory overtime rose 0.2 hour to 3.6 hours.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.7 percent to 118.3 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. Reflecting advances in both weekly hours and the level of employment, the manufacturing index increased by 1.3 percent to 95.2. Since September, the manufacturing index has increased 2 percent.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose 0.9 percent in December, and weekly earnings were up 1.2 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings increased 5 cents to $8.73, while weekly earnings were up $6.11 to $309.04. Over the past year, hourly earnings have risen 27 cents and weekly earnings $8.71.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 168.4 (1977=100) in December, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.8 percent from November. For the 12 months ended in December, the increase was 3.1 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and inter-industry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI decreased 0.5 percent during the 12-month period ended in November.

# # #

Week of January 13, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT MANAGER NAMED REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR IN PHILADELPHIA

WASHINGTON -- Alexander Montgomery, a manager with the U.S. Department of Labor, has been named regional administrator of the department's Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management (OASAM) in Philadelphia.

Prior to his new appointment, Montgomery was the director of the office of employment and training in the department's headquarters here.

Since joining the department in 1974, Montgomery has served in various administrative and management positions throughout the department.

Before coming to the Labor Department, he was with the Department of Health and Human Services and the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.

Before his career with the federal government, Montgomery served in the U.S. Army, where he retired as a major in 1970.

As the regional administrator for OASAM, Montgomery will be responsible for providing support to departmental programs that are managed by other administrators within the Philadelphia region, which includes Delaware, the District of Columbia, Maryland, Pennsylvania, Virginia and West Virginia.

Montgomery said he's looking forward to the challenges of his new position because "it gives me an opportunity to get out and work in the field where the action is."

He noted that his new position will also afford him "the opportunity to participate on the level where the department's programs are really managed, in the field, and I'm really looking forward to it.

"I know its a challenge, I know its a big region and I know that there are going to be opportunities for you to fall on your face but I think there will also be opportunities to excel," he said.

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Week of January 13, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 authorizes the Secretary of Labor through OSHA "to set mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to businesses affecting interstate commerce" through public rulemaking, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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Occupational safety and health standards are designed to reduce on-the-job injuries; health standards limit workers' risk of developing occupational disease. Most OSHA standards are horizontal--they cover hazards which exist in a wide variety of industries, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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The Occupational Safety and Health Administration has the authority to promulgate emergency temporary safety and health standards when it determines that workers are exposed to "grave danger" from toxic substances or physical agents or new hazards, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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Every six months the Occupational Safety and Health Administration publishes in the Federal Register a semiannual agenda of the health and safety standards it is actively working on, including target dates for regulatory action, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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NABWG HONORS BISHOP TUTU, OTHERS

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--DECEMBER 1985

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Week of January 20, 1986

NABWG HONORS BISHOP TUTU, OTHERS

WASHINGTON -- The National Association of Blacks Within Government (NABWG) honored Bishop Desmond M. Tutu and others at its Second Annual Black Medallion Humanitarian Awards benefit banquet held here.

Among those organizing the event were NABWG chapter members from the U.S. Department of Labor.

The Black Medallion Humanitarian Award was designed and created by NABWG in recognition and commemoration of the contributions of the black Nobel Prize winners, including Bishop Tutu. It is presented to persons whose lives and contributions to mankind best exemplify the qualities of struggle, dedication, sacrifice and selfless efforts to further the cause of justice, equality and peace as demonstrated by each of the black prize winners.

This year's recipients of the medallian were Rep. Parren J. Mitchell, Dorothy Height and Mayor Johnny Ford.

The medallion, which bears the likeness of each of the black Nobel Prize winners, is the only one of its kind known to exist.

Proceeds from the event were donated to the South African Council of Churches' Domestic Workers Project and NABWG's Youth Development Program.

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Week of January 20, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--DECEMBER 1985

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.4 percent after seasonal adjustment from November to December, considerably less than in either October or November, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The slowdown was largely due to smaller increases in food and energy items. The Intermediate Goods Price Index rose 0.4 percent, about the same as in November; these two increases, however, were in contrast to the behavior of the index in most earlier months of 1985. After climbing sharply in each of the preceding 2 months, the index for crude goods edged down 0.2 percent in December.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.2 percent in December to 297.2 (1967=100). From December 1984 to December 1985, the Finished Goods Price Index increased 1.8 percent, about the same as the 1.7 percent rise registered in 1984. However, the major categories of finished goods behaved somewhat differently in 1985 than in the year before.

Consumer food prices, which had climbed 3.5 percent in 1984, fell during most of 1985 before turning up in the fourth quarter to close the year 0.3 percent higher than at the end of 1984. After decreasing 4.1 percent in 1984, the index for consumer energy goods was at virtually the same level in December 1985 as 12 months earlier. This index was quite volatile during 1985, however. The rise in the index for finished goods other than foods and energy accelerated modestly to 2.7 percent, following a 2.1 percent increase in 1984.

The index for intermediate materials, supplies, and components slipped 0.3 percent in 1985, after moving up 1.3 percent from December 1983 to December 1984. Following a 1.6 percent drop in 1984, the crude goods index fell 5.5 percent over the year, the largest annual decline since 1952.

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Week of January 20, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP) supports part-time jobs in community service for jobless, low-income persons who are at least 55 and have poor employment prospects. SCSEP projects are in all states, District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, and U.S. territories, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

# # #

Older workers can look to three nationwide programs for help in seeking job training and employment, the senior Community Service Employment Program, Job Service offices and the Job Training Partnership Act, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

# # #

Older workers who participate in the Senior Community Employment Program work part-time in day care centers, conservation projects, schools, hospitals and fire prevention centers, among others. Participants in the program are jobless, low-income persons who are at least age 55, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

# # #

Older workers who participate in the Senior Community Service Employment Program receive annual physical examinations, personal and job-related counseling, job training if necessary, and in some cases, help in finding a regular unsubsidized job. Participants may work up to 1,300 hours a year, 20-25 hours a week, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

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BLACK WOMAN NOMINATED AS ADMINISTRATOR OF LABOR DEPARTMENT'S WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE TO SERVE AS CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW

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Week of January 27, 1986

KING'S CRUSADE FOR EQUALITY 'RESTORED THE SOUL' OF AMERICA, BROCK SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, in remarks at a U.S. Department of Labor observance commemorating the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., said the late civil rights leader's nonviolent crusade for equality "restored the soul of this country."

Brock said King "gave us a sense of what we are fundamentally about. He talked about the human side of life. He talked about individuals, families and communities, and about people working together.

"I think we in the Department of Labor have a wonderful opportunity because we deal in that human side of life. We're talking about jobs and equality, affirmative opportunities, about health and safety, about turning to those who have inadequate skills to develop their own human resources," Brock said.

Brock continued, stating that "in the process of the work that we do everyday we have an opportunity to help individuals, families and communities through a partnership, precisely as it was described by Martin Luther King."

Secretary Brock told the audience they have a responsibility to live King's dream by helping others through a partnership, thereby "living the dream of one of the truly great Americans of our time."

Brock then signed an enlarged "Living The Dream Pledge" card.

Also participating in the observance was Mayor Marion S. Barry, of the District of Columbia, who recalled his involvement in the civil rights movement as a college student. Barry urged the audience to strengthen their commitment to the goals and principles of the civil rights movement and the dream of Dr. King.

The program was sponsored jointly by the department's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity, Blacks in Government, and the American Federation of Government Employees, Local 12.

Other program participants included representatives from various Labor Department organizations. Music was provided by the Blacks in Government Chorale and by children from the department's day care center.

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Week of January 27, 1986

BLACK WOMAN NOMINATED AS ADMINISTRATOR OF LABOR DEPARTMENT'S WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

WASHINGTON -- Labor Secretary Bill Brock hailed President Reagan's nomination of Paula V. Smith to serve as Administrator of the Wage and Hour Division of the U.S. Labor Department's Employment Standards Administration.

The Wage and Hour Administrator directs the enforcement of the Federal wage and hour laws, including the Fair Labor Standards Act. The law, enacted in 1938, sets minimum wage, overtime pay, child labor and recordkeeping standards.

Smith is a native of St. Louis, Mo. She holds a bachelor's degree in Economics from Washington University and a master's degree in Business Administration from St. Louis University.

In January, 1981 Missouri Governor Christopher S. Bond appointed Smith as director of the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. She was re-appointed as labor director March 20, 1985 by Governor John Ashcroft.

As Labor Director, Mrs. Smith administers laws and evaluates policy for a six agency department which is comprised of the Division of Employment Security, the Division of Workers' Compensation, Division of Labor Standards, the Missouri Commission on Human Rights, the State Board of Mediation and the Governor's Committee on Employment of the Handicapped.

Before appointment to this Missouri cabinet level position, Smith served as manager of professional training and development for Trans World Airlines, Inc.

Mrs. Smith has served as a member of the National Commission on Employment Policy. Her other memberships included the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, Inc. of which she is a board member and has served as Secretary/Treasurer. Smith is a member of the Missouri Job Training Coordinating Council. As a representative to the Council, she serves on the Program Development and Coordination Committee.

She formerly served as a member of the board for the National Association of Commissions for Women and as a board member of the American Association of University Women. In addition she is a member of the American Society for Public Administration and Women Executives in State Government.

As Wage-Hour administrator Smith will also enforce the Public Contracts Act, the Service Contract Act, and the Davis-Bacon and related acts setting wage and hour standards for workers on government contracted jobs, as well as the wage garnishment provisions of the Consumer Credit Protection Act.

-more-

Week of January 20, 1986

WEEKLY NEWSPAPER SERVICE - 1/20/86
PAULA P.2

In addition, Smith will be responsible for the enforcement of the Migrant and Seasonal Agriculture Worker Protection Act, which establishes wage, transportation and housing protections for agricultural workers.

The Labor Department's area and district wage and hour offices across the country, with their staffs of compliance officers, will be under her direction.

Mrs. Smith is married to Lloyd Arthur Smith and the mother of two sons and one daughter Dwayne, Dwight and Cheryl.

# # #

Week of January 27, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE TO SERVE AS CONGRESSIONAL FELLOW

WASHINGTON -- Joyce Charles, a supervisory auditor with the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of the Inspector General (OIG), has been selected to serve as a Congressional fellow with the Congressional Clearinghouse on the Future.

Charles' responsibilities as a fellow will include conducting legislative research, preparing reports and conducting briefings for members of Congress and their staffs.

She will also be involved in helping to heighten the public's awareness and interest in various issues and obtaining public opinion on those issues.

"This will give me an opportunity to expand my knowledge of the legislative process and other Congressional activities," Charles said.

In addition, the experience will allow her to exchange information on concerns of the department, and her personal concerns involving minorities, women, education and senior citizen's issues.

Her duties at the Labor Department include overseeing audits of unemployment insurance, employment services and veterans employment programs. She develops policies, plans and procedures used by the department's regional OIG offices.

Charles' responsibilities also include overseeing audits and reviews of the accounting systems of organizations that receive federal funds and determining whether or not their accounting systems effectively track the funds they received from the Labor Department.

In addition to her supervisory responsibilities, Charles has served since 1980 as the OIG's Federal Women's Program Manager.

Charles, who began working with the department in 1973, has served in various positions involving audit and audit oversight with the OIG since its inception. She began her federal career with the U.S. Department of Commerce, where she was an auditor for four years.

A native of New Orleans and a graduate of Southern University there, Charles has a bachelor's degree in accounting and has done post graduate work at George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

Charles is married, has two children and lives in Fort Washington, Md. She is involved in a number of civic, community and professional organizations. She serves on the board of directors of the U.S. Labor Department's Day Care Center and the Prince George's County (Md.) Superintendent of Schools 100 Member Advisory Council. She is a former PTA president and district co-chairperson and member of the Prince George's County Public Schools Parent Advisory Committee on Specific Language and Reading Development and the Prince George's County Public School's Budget

(MORE)

Committee. In addition, Charles has been a team parent with the Boys and Girls Clubs, Prince George's County, Maryland; member and former vice president, National Hook-Up of Black Women, Prince George's Maryland Chapter, for which she is currently serving as education committee chairperson; member, Federally Employed Women Inc.; member of the Youth Motivation Task Force, National Alliance of Business; former president, Department of Labor Toastmasters Club; member Association of Governmental Accountants, and member, Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc..

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Week of January 27, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

A record 19.5 million mothers, or 6 out of 10 women with children under 18 years old, were in the U.S. labor force in 1984. Ten years earlier, not quite 5 out of 10 mothers were employed outside the home, according to "Working Mothers and Their Children," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

About 56 percent of the 58 million children under age 18 had mothers in the labor force in 1984; 48 percent of all children under age 6 (9.3 million) had working mothers, according to "Working Mothers and Their Children," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

A record 6.2 million families with children were maintained by mothers in 1984, and they accounted for one-fifth of all families with children. In 1985 there were about half as many such families, and they constituted only 1 in 7 families with children, according to "Working Mothers and Their Children," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Almost half the children in two-parent families in 1984 had both an employed mother and father. Overall, approximately 1 child in 7 lived in a home where there was no employed parent, and income was accordingly low (a median of $6,782 in 1983), according to "Working Mothers and Their Children," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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2/3/86

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from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

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Week of February 3, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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TO HELP BLACK WOMEN FIND EMPLOYMENT

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--DECEMBER 1985

REAL EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1985

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Federal Office Bldg.
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Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Week of February 3, 1986

JOB READINESS WORKSHOPS DESIGNED TO HELP BLACK WOMEN FIND EMPLOYMENT

KANSAS CITY -- Black women experiencing problems in finding employment are being urged to attend a series of workshops sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau Regional Office and the Metropolitan Lutheran Ministry.

According to Women's Bureau Regional Administrator Rose Kemp, the series of "Job Readiness Workshops" will focus on specific activities to help women who are, or expect to be, looking for employment.

Kemp said each weekly workshop will last two hours and that transportation and child care would be available for those individuals requiring the services.

While the workshops are being sponsored by the Women's Bureau, Kemp said she is pleased to learn that men have been attending the workshop sessions which began in mid-January. The workshops will continue until March 18.

Workshops will help women to:

--identify their job skills, experience and abilities;
--improve communication skills during job interviews and on the job;
--become familar with goal-setting skills and how to use accomplishments as encouragement to face new challenges;
--explore traditional and nontraditional careers for women;
--identify basic job seeking techniques
--maintain good health through preventive health measures;
--explore grooming techniques which create a positive impression and strengthen self-confidence; and
--identify community resources for training and other needed services.

For more information about the workshops, contact the Women's Bureau at 816-374-6108 or the Metropolitan Luthern Ministry at 816-931-0027.

# # #

Week of January 27, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--DECEMBER 1985

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) increased 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment in December to a level of 327.4 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in December, the CPI-U increased 3.8 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) rose 0.2 percent in December, prior to seasonal adjustment. The December 1985 CPI-W level of 323.4 (1967=100) was 3.6 percent higher than the index in December 1984.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for All Urban Consumers rose 0.4 percent in December. This compares with a 0.6 percent increase in November and a 0.3 percent average monthly rate of advance for all of 1985. For the second consecutive month, substantial increases in food and energy prices were responsible for the larger-than-average monthly increase in the CPI. These components accounted for about one half of the overall December advance. Excluding the food and energy components, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in December, slightly less than in November.

For the 12-month period ended in December, the CPI-U advanced 3.8 percent, about the some as in each of the 3 preceding calendar years. Although the overall increases in the past 4 years have been nearly the same, the composition of each has been somewhat different. The energy, shelter, and food components showed sharp deceleration beginning in late 1981.

Throughout the 1982-85 period, however, the moderation became more broadly based with price increases for all other items slowing steadily. This continued slowing has occurred primarily in the goods sector, as prices in the service sector have remained around the 5 to 6 percent level since 1982. The rates for the groups during these periods are shown below.

Average annual percent changes

	Dec. 1977-Dec. 1981	12 months ended Dec. 1982	Dec. 1983	Dec. 1984	Dec. 1985
All items	10.9	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.8
Food	9.1	3.1	2.6	3.8	2.7
Shelter	13.4	2.4	4.7	5.2	6.0
Energy	18.4	1.3	-.5	.2	1.8
All other items	8.2	6.1	5.0	4.4	3.7
Other commodities	7.3	5.5	5.0	3.1	2.2
Other services	9.4	7.3	4.9	6.0	5.4

-more-

The food and beverage component rose 0.8 percent in December after advancing 0.7 percent in November, the sharpest increases in this component since the first 2 months of 1984. Grocery store food prices increased 1.0 percent on the strength of advances in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and fresh fruits and vegetables. The index for fresh fruits and vegetables rose 7.0 percent in December and was 7.8 higher than in December 1984. Very large lettuce and tomato price increases were responsible for the December advance. Beef prices, which had declined in each of the first 8 months of 1985, have risen 9 percent in the last 4 months and are now slightly higher (0.6 percent) than at the end of 1984. Pork prices, which increased 2.8 percent in November, rose 0.8 percent in December and are now at virtually the same level as a year ago. Poultry prices advanced sharply for the second consecutive month --up 1.6 percent in December-- and are 3.0 percent higher than 12 months ago. Among other major grocery store food groups, cereal and bakery products rose 0.6 percent in December and 3.6 percent over the year. The indexes for processed fruits and vegetables, dairy products, and other foods at home all declined in December. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--each increased 0.3 percent, the same as in November. The 12-month advances in these components--3.8 and 5.5 percent, respectively--compare with a 2.1 percent increase in grocery store food prices.

The housing component rose 0.3 percent in December, after advancing 0.5 percent in November, reflecting smaller increases in the cost of shelter and household furnishings and operations. Within the shelter component, renters' costs rose 0.1 percent, homeowners' costs rose 0.4 percent, and maintenance and repair costs--which pertain to both renters and homeowners--increased 0.3 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.1 percent in December, following a 0.3 percent increase in November. The index for fuels and other utilities advanced 0.4 percent in December, the same as in November. Fuel oil prices--up 2.0 percent in December--have increased 11.0 percent in the last 4 months of 1985 and are now 5.5 percent above their level at the end of 1984. Despite these advances, fuel oil prices in December were 8.0 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for electricity rose 0.6 percent in December, after registering declines in each of

the preceding 2 months,and are 2.7 percent higher than in December 1984. The index for natural gas registered its fifth consecutive monthly decline and has decreased 4.6 percent during 1985. Among other utilities, the cost of telephone services declined slightly in December, due to a 1.3 percent drop in charges for intrastate calls. During the past 12 months, the cost of telephone services has risen 4.7 percent with local charges advancing and interstate call charges declining.

The transportation component rose 0.5 percent in December, following an increase of 0.7 percent in November, largely as a result of a smaller but substantial increase in gasoline prices and a turnaround in the cost of automobile finance charges. Following the 1.0 percent increase in December, gasoline prices were 3.0 percent above their level at the end of 1984, but 11.4 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Automobile finance charges, which increased 5.4 percent in the two-month period ended in November, declined 0.8 percent in December and are now 8.3 percent lower than in December 1984. On the other hand, new and used car prices, which

-more-

were unchanged in November, rose 0.4 and 0.1 percent, respectively. During 1985, new car prices increased 3.5 percent, while used car prices declined 1.9 percent. Among other automobile expenses, insurance costs rose 1.1 percent in December and 12.0 percent during all of 1985. The index for public transportation was unchanged in December as a decline in airline fares offset increases in intercity bus and train fares and taxi fares. For the 12 months ended in December, public transportation costs rose 5.1 percent.

The medical care component rose 0.6 percent in December, following increases of 0.5 percent in each of the preceding 5 months. The index for medical care commodities-- prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.6 percent, with the cost of physicians' services and hospital rooms each up 0.7 percent. During 1985, the cost of physicians' services and hospital rooms advanced 6.9 and 4.8 percent, respectively. The over-the-year increase in hospital rooms was the smallest December-to-December rise since a 4.4 percent rise in 1964.

The index for apparel and upkeep declined 0.2 percent in December, following a 0.2 percent increase in November. Widespread sale prices, with larger than usual seasonal price reductions in women's and girls' clothing, were only partially offset by a 0.4 percent rise in charges for apparel services. During the past 12 months, prices for apparel commodities rose 2.4 percent, and charges for apparel services advanced 4.9 percent.

The index for entertainment declined 0.1 percent in December, following a 0.3 percent rise in November. Declines in all major entertainment commodity groups--reading materials, sporting goods and equipment, and toys, hobbies, and other entertainment commodities--more than offset a small increase in entertainment services.

The other goods and services component advanced 0.6 percent in December, after increasing 0.4 percent in November, largely as a result of a 0.9 percent increase in cigarette prices.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.4 percent in December, the same as in the CPI-U. (The rental equivalence approach to homeownership has been used in the CPI-W since January 1985. The methodology and samples of areas, items, outlets, and prices are identical in both the CPI-W and the CPI-U, and differences in monthly changes result only from different expenditure patterns and seasonal adjustment factors.)

# # #

Week of February 3, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN DECEMBER 1985

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.7 percent from November to December after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This increase stemmed from a 0.9 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent increase in average weekly hours, and was partially offset by a 0.4 increase in the Consumer Price Index as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 2.9 percent between December of 1984 and 1985 as a result of a 3.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 3.6 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings decreased 0.7 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $309.04 in December 1985, compared with $300.33 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased by 0.3 percent from November to December. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI decreased by 0.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 3, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

A record 19.5 million mothers, or 6 out of 10 women with children under 18 years old, were in the U.S. labor force in 1984. Ten years earlier, not quite 5 out of 10 mothers were employed outside the home, according to "Working Mothers and Their Children" a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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NEWS
from the
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Washington, D.C.
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Week of February 10, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

GWENDOLYN BROOKS TO JOIN BLACK HISTORY MONTH OBSERVANCE AT LABOR DEPARTMENT

BROCK ANNOUNCES AID FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED SHOEWORKERS

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS OF BLACK WORKERS: FOURTH QUARTER 1985

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of February 10, 1986

GWENDOLYN BROOKS TO JOIN BLACK HISTORY MONTH OBSERVANCE AT LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Gwendolyn Brooks, Pulitzer Prize winning poet, is scheduled to read her poetry as part of the U.S. Department of Labor's observance of Black History Month at 2 p.m., Feb. 19 in the first-floor auditorium of the department's headquarters building.

Black History Month events were scheduled to open with a ceremony Feb. 4 in the department's auditorium with an address by Dorothy Gilliam, syndicated columnist for the Washington Post.

Andre C. Whisenton, director of the Labor Department's Office of Equal Opportunity, said the scheduled activities include programs "that appeal to everyone but, more importantly, that provide a look at, and show the diversification of our culture and heritage."

The department's theme for this year's observance is: "The Black American Experience: International Connection."

The Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) has planned "A Salute to Black Miners," which was scheduled to open the month of activities. The salute features an exhibit of historical photographs of black miners in Alabama taken between 1894 and 1937. The exhibit, scheduled to be on display at MSHA headquarters in Arlington, Va., from Feb. 5 to 14, is on loan from the Alabama Folklife Association and the Archives of American Minority Cultures at the University of Alabama.

South African freedom figher, educator and writer, Dr. Themba Sono, is scheduled to discuss his experiences and the problems facing black South Africans, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Feb. 18, in the department's auditorium in Washington.

The department's chapter of the National Association of Blacks Within Government will show a videotape of its 1986 Black Medallion Humanitarian Awards Banquet, at which Bishop Desmond Tutu was an honoree and the keynote speaker. The activity, which is being co-sponsored by the Bureau of Labor Statistics, is scheduled to take place at 2 p.m. Feb. 10, at BLS' headquarters in Washington.

Other Labor Department agencies and employee organizations have planned a wide range of activities for the month including a black history cultural film festival, gospel concerts, dramatic presentations, conferences and forums.

###

Week of February 10, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES AID FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED SHOEWORKERS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that $3.1 million has been awarded to assist blacks and other dislocated shoeworkers in 7 states who have been laid off due to foreign competition.

These grants are part of $5 million set aside to assist workers dislocated from the shoe industry under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

"The Labor Department made a commitment to President Reagan to act quickly to alleviate unemployment and related problems in the shoe industry," Brock said. "These awards illustrate we are continuing to respond to that commitment."

Secretary Brock has approved awards for Maine ($1,000,000), Massachusetts ($434,000), Missouri ($300,000), New Hampshire ($238,665), New York ($724,000), Pennsylvania ($250,000) and Puerto Rico ($147,604).

State and County Job Training Centers will operate the program.

Workers will receive classroom training, on-the-job training, remedial and vocational education, job search and placement assistance, followup for dislocated shoe workers and necessary support services.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been or are about to be laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or plant closings. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of February 10, 1986

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS OF BLACK WORKERS: FOURTH QUARTER 1985

WASHINGTON -- The median weekly earnings for blacks who worked full time edged up between the fourth quarter of 1984 and the last three months of 1985, but were less than earnings received by whites, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected in the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample of households in which respondents are asked how much each wage and salary worker usually earns per week.

The median weekly earnings for blacks ($281) were 77 percent of those for whites ($364), while Hispanics earned 74 percent as much as whites. Hispanic men's earnings ($299) nearly matched those of black men ($307), but earnings among Hispanic women ($231) were well below those of black women ($253).

For blacks working part-time, fourth quarter median weekly earnings were $90, $5 less than earned by whites. Earnings of black women who worked part-time ($93) were higher than those received by black men ($82).

Hispanic and white women who worked part-time earned the same during the fourth quarter of 1985, $99. Similarly, part-time earnings for Hispanic and white men were about the same, $100 and $99, respectively.

Median weekly earnings for the nation's 77.3 million full-time wage and salary workers were $351 in the fourth quarter, 4.8 percent higher than a year earlier, BLS reported.

Among the broadest occupational groupings, workers employed in managerial and professional specialty occupations had the highest earnings--$493. Those in precision production, craft and repair jobs were in second place, at $402. The lowest paid workers--at about $220--were in service jobs and in the farming, forestry, and fishing group. Women's earnings were highest among professional specialty jobs ($419), while men's were highest in executive, administrative and managerial positions ($593).

###

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first combination of black workers occurred when chimney sweepers in Charleston, S.C., refused to work unless their price scale was met. Rather than being a strike against employers, this was a protest against price controls in 1763, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first organization of black workers was the American League of Colored Laborers, located in New York City in 1850, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first organization of white workers to advocate the creation of black labor unions and to allow blacks to attend its annual meetings was the National Labor Union in 1869, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Week of February 17, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGES DOWN IN JANUARY

BLACK TEENAGE MOTHERS, DROPOUTS TO BE HELPED BY FEDERALLY FUNDED YWCA JOB PROJECT

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.6 MILLION TO AID BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.9 BILLION FOR JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES PROPOSED $28.5 BILLION IN LABOR DEPARTMENT BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL 1987

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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214-767-4776

Arkansas
Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

Region VII...........Patrick A. Hand
Room 2509
Federal Office Bldg.
911 Walnut St.
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-374-5481

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Region VIII..........Ernest E. Sanchez
Room 1468
Federal Bldg.
1961 Stout St.
Denver, CO 80294
303-844-4235

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Montana
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South Dakota
Utah

Region IX............Joe B. Kirkbride
Room 11003
Federal Bldg.
450 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-556-3423

Arizona
California
Hawaii
Nevada

Region X.............Mike Shimizu
Room 3086
Federal Office Bldg.
909 First Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620

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Week of February 17, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE EDGES DOWN IN JANUARY

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers edged down in January, from 14.9 to 14.4 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

Jobless rates declined for black adult men and women over the month, while the rate for black youth edged up.

The jobless rate for black adult men moved down from 13.1 to 12.7 percent. Similarly, the rate for black adult women was 12.0 percent, down from 12.6 percent. The rate for black youth edged up from 41.6 to 41.9 percent over the month.

Jobless rates declined for adult men and whites over the month (both falling from 5.9 to 5.7 percent), while rates for adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (18.4 percent), Hispanics (10.1 percent), and most other worker groups were little changed from December.

The overall unemployment rate fell from 6.8 to 6.6 percent, and the rate for civilian workers dropped from 6.9 to 6.7 percent.

The number of nonagricultural wage and salary jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--rose by 565,000 in January, after seasonal adjustment, to 99.6 million. Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--rose by about 400,000 over the month, after allowance is made for the effect of technical changes introduced in January in the procedure used for developing survey estimates. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs rose to a record 60.6 percent.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons edged down in January to 7.8 million, after seasonal adjustment, and the civilian unemployment rate fell by 0.2 percentage point to 6.7 percent. Both measures have shown gradual improvement since last summer. The rate was at its lowest level since March of 1980.

The number of unemployed persons who had been seeking work for 27 weeks or longer--the very long-term unemployed--declined by 130,000 in January to 1.1 million. This group accounted for 14 percent of the jobless total. There was little change in either mean or median duration of joblessness, however. Among the reasons for unemployment categories, there were declines in the number of other job losers (those who do not expect recall) and labor force reentrants; these were offset partly by an increase in unemployment among job leavers.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

After adjusting for the effect of the revised population estimates, civilian employment rose by 400,000 in January to 109.0 million, seasonally adjusted. (Employment normally falls markedly in January, and this year

-more-

the decline was considerably less than usual, resulting in the large seasonally adjusted increase.) The employment-population ratio--the proportion of the civilian population with jobs--reached a record 60.6 percent in January, as there was a sharp increase in the ratio for men.

The civilian labor force stood at 116.8 million in January, not much different from the December level after allowance is made for the change in the estimation procedure. Over the year, the labor force grew by approximately 1.6 million (again, after adjustment).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment increased by 565,000 in January to 99.6 million, after seasonal adjustment. The January job count was 3.1 million above its year-earlier level.

In the service-producing sector, there were especially large seasonally adjusted increases in retail trade and services. Employment in retail trade, which had shown comparatively limited growth during the Christmas buying season, did not show as large a decline as usual in January and, after seasonal adjustment, rose by 205,000. The over-the-year increase, which is not affected by seasonality, totaled more than 800,000. Services continued its pattern of strong job growth with an additional 115,000 jobs in January; the over-the-year gain in this industry was a very robust 1.1 million. Elsewhere in the sector, there were over-the-month increases in transportation and public utilities, wholesale trade, and finance, insurance, and real estate.

In the goods-producing sector, construction employment did not experience as large a decline as it usually does in January. Buoyed by mild weather and strength in the housing industry, construction jobs rose by 155,000 to 4.9 million, seasonally adjusted. This development followed several months of little change. Mining employment was about unchanged in January.

Manufacturing jobs edged up in January, following increases in each of the prior 3 months. At 19.5 million, manufacturing employment was 135,000 less than the previous year's level, as there had been substantial declines between January and September 1985. This January, there were small over-the-month employment increases among many of the individual manufacturing industries.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls remained at 35.1 hours in January, after seasonal adjustment. Weekly hours in manufacturing edged down 0.1 hour to 40.9 hours, still a very high level. Factory overtime also decreased 0.1 hour, to 3.5 hours.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.8 percent to 119.0 (1977=100),

-more-

after seasonal adjustment. Following continuous advances since September, the manufacturing index was little changed in January.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly and weekly earnings declined 0.7 percent in January, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 2 cents to $8.74, while weekly earnings were down $4.54 to $303.28, a reflection of a drop in the workweek which is typical for this time of year. Over the past year, hourly earnings have risen 24 cents and weekly earnings $8.33.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 167.7 (1977=100) in January, seasonally adjusted, a decrease of 0.4 percent from December. For the 12 months ended in January, the increase was 2.9 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI decreased 0.5 percent during the 12-month period ended in December.

Changes in Household Data Series

Beginning with data for January 1986, revised population estimates used as controls for the household survey have been introduced. The revised procedure reflects estimates since 1980 of undocumented immigration (largely Hispanic) and emigration. This adjustment results in higher, more accurate levels for January, but it produces a break in series with data for prior periods. The effect of this change for the overall population was less than half of 1 percent. If revised population controls were applied to December data, the December-January increase would be 169,000 for the labor force and 397,000 for the employed. The level of unemployment would decline by 228,000. The unemployment rate is not affected by the change.

The revised procedure raises the levels of Hispanic labor force and employment counts by about 4 percent. Because of this large magnitude, BLS is revising data for this group, to the extent possible, back to January 1980. All Hispanic data in this release already have been revised.

The changes and their effect on estimates of labor force characteristics are described in "Changes in the Estimation Procedure in the Current Population Survey Beginning in January 1986," to appear in the February 1986 issue of Employment and Earnings.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

BLACK TEENAGE MOTHERS, DROPOUTS TO BE HELPED BY FEDERALLY FUNDED YWCA JOB PROJECT

WASHINGTON -- Black and other teenage mothers, high school dropouts and other young women with job market disadvantages will be assisted by a joint pilot project of the Women's Bureau in the U.S. Department of Labor and the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) of the U.S.A.

Women's Bureau Director Lenora Cole Alexander announced that, under terms of a one-year, $150,000 contract, the YWCA will develop model programs at two sites, Boston and Miami, each serving approximately 20 women. The cities were chosen by the YWCA from 400 community associations because of their experience in helping disadvantaged young women. The YWCA hopes to use the pilot projects as a springboard to a larger, nationwide program.

Gwendolyn Calvert Baker, executive director of the national board of the YWCA, identified the project's target groups as "low-income women, 16 to 21 years of age, who are either unemployed, underemployed, pregnant, parenting teenagers, single heads of households with dependent children or without a high school diploma."

She said the project will include elements of personal counseling, remedial classroom instruction, job skills training and support services such as referrals for assistance with child care, housing, food procurement, medical services and mental health consultation.

Participation in the two pilot projects is scheduled for February through August 1986. The contract, which began in September 1985 and ends in September 1986, includes research and evaluation activities.

The curriculum devised for use in the Young Women's Employment Training Project to prepare disadvantaged women for economic self-sufficiency is based on the Women in Nontraditional Careers (WINC) program developed by the Women's Bureau for use in school systems around the country. The WINC model is designed to help women move out of traditional occupations that are low paying and limited in terms of advancement, fringe benefits and professional job satisfaction.

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In Boston, the YWCA employment project will focus on adolescent mothers and will serve 20 participants. The YWCA's Boston Branch Executive Director Juanita Wade said that in addition to job training, the new Boston program will include counseling for the young women, their families, peers and other people important in their lives. Remedial education will include business, mathematics and literacy instruction and will be geared toward attaining General Educational Development (GED) certification.

Emphasis in the program will also be on developing the self-esteem lacking in many members of the targeted group and considered essential for personal growth. Role models, mentors, group sessions and extensive individual counseling will be used.

Details of the Miami program effort are similar, but in Florida the focus will be on high school dropouts. Enrollment is set at 25 young women, to allow for some attrition.

Beverly Phillips, executive director of the YWCA of Greater Miami and Dade County, cited three distinguishing features of the new project: (1) it is open exclusively to women, (2) it is multi-ethnic, and the mix of cultural backgrounds in one program will be evaluated, and (3) the new program offers flexibility to change benchmarks as evolving needs dictate.

Participants in Miami will be enrolled in GED training after assessment and testing. Life management courses and individual coaching will be provided. "We must help participants continue to want to achieve," said the YWCA Miami Project Director Modeste Jackson. "Our goal is to see that each participant is employable when she leaves the program."

Additional information about the pilot projects can be obtained from the Human Resources Division of the YWCA of the U.S.A., in New York City; (212) 614-2786.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.6 MILLION TO AID BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $2.6 million in grants to dislocated workers, including blacks and others, in Georgia, Illinois, New York and Ohio, who are unemployed due to plant closings and the impact of foreign imports.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide the dislocated workers with re-training and other supportive services to re-enter the work force.

"This Administration is committed to assisting individuals who lost their jobs due to plant closings and other factors," Secretary Brock stated. "Through JTPA, we can provide the resources to help them adapt their skills and talents to the local job market," he said.

The Georgia Department of Community Affairs will receive $1,000,000 to assist former Firestone tire and rubber workers in Baker, Calhoun, Colquitt, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Lee, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, Terrell, Thomas and Worth counties. The project is primarily designed to provide job search and retraining.

The Illinois Department of Employment Security, in cooperation with Thornton Community College and Prairie State College, will receive $262,500 to aid workers in Allis-Chalmers Engine Division plant in Harvey, Illinois. This project will assist workers dislocated by the plant closure. They will be retrained for jobs in automotive services, building maintenance, electronics, hotel/restaurant services, security services and small business management. Other services provided include: counseling, job search assistance, job placement, classroom and on-the-job training.

The New York (Fulton, Montgomery and Schoharie Counties) Private Industry Council will receive $597,420 to help workers affected by mass layoffs at Coleco Industries and the reorganization of General Electric. Workers from the Nabisco, Industrial Knit, Mohasco Carpet, Mop Wringer, and 9 leather companies in the Mohawk Valley area were also affected by plant shutdowns. Job search assistance, classroom skill training and on-the-job training services will be provided.

The Youngstown Employment and Training Corporation will receive $771,671 to aid workers in the steel industry and other related industries in the Youngstown area. This project will complement existing employment and training activities currently provided. Workers will be trained for jobs in the manufacturing, food and hotel industries.

State and county job training centers in Georgia, Illinois, New York and Ohio will operate the projects.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition, or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for localemployment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of February 17 , 1986

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.9 BILLION FOR JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced $1.9 billion in allotments to states for program year 1986 under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

In accordance with the 1986 Appropriations Act, the funds will provide states with the necessary resources to operate local training and employment programs for economically disadvantaged youth and adults, dislocated workers and those with special barriers to employment from July 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987.

"This Administration continues to provide the support needed to spur incentive and production in this nation's unemployed," Brock said. "JTPA provides the resources to help individuals adapt their talents and skills to the local job market. "

The $1.9 billion is authorized under Title II-A, Training for the Disadvantaged and Title III, the Dislocated Workers Program.

The funds reflect a reduction of $80.1 million for Title II-A and $4.3 million for Title III pursuant to the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings legislation effective March 1. Allotments are determined according to unemployment in states on a formula basis.

Attached is a list of allocations based on amounts to states for both Title II-A and Title III.

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR—EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
PY 1986 JTPA TITLE II-A ALLOTMENTS TO STATES
01-16-1986

	ALLOTMENT
Alabama	44,190,427
Alaska	4,896,374
Arizona	18,432,668
Arkansas	20,705,271
California	189,597,766
Colorado	17,145,259
Connecticut	13,010,234
Delaware	4,445,896
District of Columbia	6,536,638
Florida	62,193,069
Georgia	35,028,559
Hawaii	5,267,910
Idaho	7,591,996
Illinois	99,855,985
Indiana	45,011,399
Iowa	20,170,048
Kansas	9,123,311
Kentucky	33,518,050
Louisiana	47,399,691
Maine	7,322,534
Maryland	20,896,947
Massachusetts	27,706,317
Michigan	95,763,190
Minnesota	22,127,261
Mississippi	28,794,629
Missouri	33,249,122
Montana	6,219,205
Nebraska	5,902,071
Nevada	7,063,419
New Hampshire	4,445,896
New Jersey	39,729,869
New Mexico	11,703,739
New York	122,489,036
North Carolina	37,703,148
North Dakota	4,445,896
Ohio	91,248,345
Oklahoma	22,135,732
Oregon	26,486,869
Pennsylvania	97,823,589
Puerto Rico	71,395,175
Rhode Island	5,976,196
South Carolina	22,084,326
South Dakota	4,445,896
Tennessee	40,486,288
Texas	95,881,888
Utah	9,194,027
Vermont	4,445,896
Virginia	26,335,318
Washington	38,477,093
West Virginia	24,773,040
Wisconsin	33,039,814
Wyoming	4,445,896
American Samoa	268,028
Guam	1,125,402
Northern Marianas	125,000
Republic of Palau	493,081
Virgin Islands	1,560,271
NATIONAL TOTAL	1,781,930,000

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR—EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
PY 1986 JTPA TITLE III
DISLOCATED WORKER PROGRAM
ALLOTMENTS AND MATCHING REQUIREMENTS
01-17-1986

	UNEMPL RATE	REDUCTION UNITS	ALLOTMENT	REQUIRED MATCH	TOTAL PROGRAM
Alabama	10.1	3	1,791,261	716,504	2,507,765
Alaska	9.7	3	203,625	81,450	285,075
Arizona	5.5	0	463,403	463,403	926,806
Arkansas	8.5	1	727,957	582,366	1,310,323
California	7.3	0	7,498,655	7,498,655	14,997,310
Colorado	5.7	0	617,150	617,150	1,234,300
Connecticut	4.8	0	448,820	448,820	897,640
Delaware	5.7	0	120,938	120,938	241,876
District of Columbia	8.5	1	247,314	197,851	445,165
Florida	6.2	0	2,091,224	2,091,224	4,182,448
Georgia	6.2	0	1,152,077	1,152,077	2,304,154
Hawaii	5.4	0	160,955	160,955	321,910
Idaho	7.6	1	266,605	213,284	479,889
Illinois	8.9	2	4,849,651	2,909,791	7,759,442
Indiana	8.5	1	2,155,476	1,724,381	3,879,857
Iowa	7.6	1	972,286	777,829	1,750,115
Kansas	4.9	0	376,208	376,208	752,416
Kentucky	8.7	2	1,473,002	883,801	2,356,803
Louisiana	10.9	4	2,074,758	414,952	2,489,710
Maine	5.7	0	221,505	221,505	443,010
Maryland	4.9	0	715,005	715,005	1,430,010
Massachusetts	4.0	0	695,198	695,198	1,390,396
Michigan	10.4	3	4,661,520	1,864,608	6,526,128
Minnesota	5.8	0	991,432	991,432	1,982,864
Mississippi	10.4	3	1,185,710	474,284	1,659,994
Missouri	6.9	0	1,401,627	1,401,627	2,803,254
Montana	7.1	0	236,353	236,353	472,706
Nebraska	4.8	0	223,515	223,515	447,030
Nevada	7.9	1	317,643	254,114	571,757
New Hampshire	4.4	0	116,624	116,624	233,248
New Jersey	5.7	0	1,541,909	1,541,909	3,083,818
New Mexico	8.0	1	416,356	333,085	749,441
New York	6.7	0	4,659,564	4,659,564	9,319,128
North Carolina	6.0	0	1,339,237	1,339,237	2,678,474
North Dakota	5.5	0	109,879	109,879	219,758
Ohio	8.9	2	4,644,816	2,786,890	7,431,706
Oklahoma	7.1	0	856,027	856,027	1,712,054
Oregon	9.5	2	1,176,882	470,753	1,647,635
Pennsylvania	8.3	1	4,473,632	3,578,906	8,052,538
Puerto Rico	21.5	14	2,087,835	0	2,087,835
Rhode Island	5.0	0	148,754	148,754	297,508
South Carolina	6.7	0	813,372	813,372	1,626,744
South Dakota	5.0	0	87,865	87,865	175,730
Tennessee	8.3	1	1,640,365	1,312,292	2,952,657
Texas	6.5	0	3,403,875	3,403,875	6,807,750
Utah	6.4	0	325,886	325,886	651,772
Vermont	4.9	0	70,665	70,665	141,330
Virginia	5.2	0	822,193	822,193	1,644,386
Washington	8.9	2	1,682,659	1,009,595	2,692,254
West Virginia	13.8	7	1,300,109	0	1,300,109
Wisconsin	7.0	0	1,416,655	1,416,655	2,833,310
Wyoming	6.3	0	110,694	110,694	221,388
American Samoa	0.0	0	10,789	0	10,789
Guam	0.0	0	45,302	0	45,302
Northern Marianas	0.0	0	5,032	0	5,032
Republic of Palau	0.0	0	19,343	0	19,343
Virgin Islands	0.0	0	62,808	0	62,808
National Reserve	0.0	0	23,925,000	0	23,925,000
NATIONAL TOTAL	7.4		95,655,000	53,824,000	149,479,000

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY BROCK ANNOUNCES PROPOSED $28.5 BILLION IN LABOR DEPARTMENT BUDGET AUTHORITY FOR FISCAL 1987

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan's fiscal 1987 budget request for the Department of Labor "is a balanced proposal that protects the interests of American workers," Labor Secretary William E. Brock said. "It also contributes to continued economic growth and stability by helping to reduce the federal deficit."

The department's proposed 1987 budget calls for $28.5 billion in budget authority and $23.2 billion in outlays.

The request includes $782.6 million in spending decreases for fiscal 1986; these decreases are either mandated by recent budget legislation or proposed as necessary economies.

Brock said the department's budget "reflects not only our awareness of the need for fiscal restraint, but also a number of reforms we can make to improve program effectiveness and to focus our resources more effectively on people in need of help."

Spending increases are proposed for a number of department programs. Included are an added $74 million for assistance to dislocated workers during fiscal 1986 and other increases, primarily in worker protection programs, during fiscal 1987.

Of the total $782.6 million in budget reductions for fiscal 1986, $362.6 million in cancelled spending authority will result from the Gramm-Rudman-Hollings (GRH) Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985. The remainder of the fiscal 1986 spending decrease totals $420 million in requests to reduce enacted 1986 appropriations.

Major portions of the $420 million in Administration 1986 reduction requests include $208 million affecting the summer youth employment program and $196.5 million to begin a phasedown of the Job Corps.

Further fiscal 1986 reductions of $2.8 million are mandated as part of a governmentwide reduction in funds for advisory and assistance services under the Treasury-Postal Service Appropriations Act of 1986.

Major budget increases proposed by the President (for fiscal 1987 unless otherwise indicated) are as follows:

--A supplemental appropriation of $74 million to assist dislocated workers, especially those affected by increased imports, under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) in fiscal 1986.

--$20 million for JTPA pilot and demonstration projects to provide an expanded examination of labor market structural changes and of issues requiring national attention and coordination.

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--$10 million for JTPA research and evaluation to study and test new emerging strategies to address the training needs of target population groups, such as youths and dislocated workers.

--$10 million for unemployment insurance research and demonstration projects to provide for continuing and expanding research into alternative uses of unemployment compensation, to expedite the return of the potentially long-term unemployed to work.

--$4.2 million for the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation to reduce backlogs in benefit administration, premium collection and sufficient and insufficient plan determination areas.

--$1.1 million for the department's Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration to begin work on developing a comprehensive Employee Retirement Income Security Act data base.

--$1.5 million for the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to upgrade and replace equipment and supplies for occupational safety and health laboratories and for OSHA compliance officers.

--$1.3 million for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) to update a longitudinal file of business establishments that would enable it to track employment change in firms over time.

--$2.1 million that will enable BLS to expand the Professional, Administrative, Technical and Clerical Pay Survey.

--$.8 million for the Office of the Solicitor and the Benefits Review Board to handle black lung claim backlogs.

--$1.0 million to enable the Solicitor to handle claim workloads under the Longshore and Harbor Workers' Compensation Act.

--$1.2 million to enable the Office of Inspector General to increase contract audit services.

Major budget decreases for fiscal 1987 are proposed as follows:

--$64.3 million for the Job Corps, reflecting decreased 1987 needs resulting from the phasedown starting in 1986 from 40,500 to 22,000 slots.

--$26 million for Trade Act retraining, job search and relocation assistance; no separate program is proposed in 1987, because the JTPA dislocated worker assistance program is being redirected to assure better, faster service to workers displaced by imports.

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--$4.8 million for BLS, related to elimination of the Permanent Mass Layoff and Plant Closings Program.

--$1.4 million for BLS, related to reducing sample detail in the Labor Market Information Program.

--$5.0 million in staff reductions because of the Job Corps phasedown, expiration of trade adjustment assistance legislation and the scaling back of Employment and Training Administration program monitoring.

# # #

Week of February 17, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first national black labor organization, the Colored National Labor Union, was created in 1869, according to "Labor Firsts in America, a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed or color was the Ives-Quinn Act in 1945, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first black vice-president of the AFL-CIO was A. Phillip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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NEWS
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Week of February 24, 1986

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MINE SAFETY ADMINISTRATION SALUTES BLACK MINERS

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT MANAGER CITED FOR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Federal Bldg.
450 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-556-3423
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Room 3086
Federal Office Bldg.
909 First Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620
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Washington

Week of February 24, 1986

BLACK AMERICANS ARE AT A CROSSROAD, SAYS BLACK JOURNALIST

WASHINGTON -- Black Americans are "standing at a crossroad, facing dangers more extreme than any of us have ever witnessed in the past," said Dorothy Gilliam, syndicated columnist with the Washington Post.

Gilliam said black Americans have reached a new turning point in their overall development and must begin asking themselves, "Which way will we head?"

In remarks at the opening ceremony observing Black History Month at the U.S. Department of Labor here, Gilliam noted that this is a time when black Americans must work to preserve their identity or "face a kind of unraveling whose proportion we can't really imagine."

She said blacks must "rediscover" what is special about themselves as a people and forge that identity and begin building stronger institutions.

However, before blacks can move away from the crossroad with a renewed focus for future direction, Gilliam said they must rid themselves of the ignorance and shame of their history, the inhibiting effects brought on by low self-worth and self hatred, and "hangups" about class.

"We're at a different place today than we've ever been before in our history," Gilliam said. "But the family, which has traditionally been our rock, our strength, our hope and our salvation, is in trouble.

"When the immediate black family is in trouble, then the institutional black family is in trouble. And because all of us are linked, if some of us are in danger, all of us are in danger," Gilliam remarked.

She charged her audience to find ways to maintain the extended black family "as an instrument to provide for the mutual benefit of all. We must educate, provide economic and emotional security, and direction for each other."

Reflecting on many of the conditions that exist today, Gilliam said, "We are standing at the best and worst of times. They are times of tension and polarization between groups. There's a great deal of discord among nations.

"There's a lot of conservatism in the land that's disturbing many people, and there seems to be almost a denial of many of the issues that we think are important. There's a complacency over civil rights and human rights and our nation is in transition from an industrial to an information age with all the upheaval and uncertainty that that change involves," she said.

In spite of those conditions, Gilliam offered a challenge as she concluded her remarks: "If we say today, the light of our future is in danger of being snuffed out, then I challenge you to make the right turn..."

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Week of February 24, 1986

MINE SAFETY ADMINISTRATION SALUTES BLACK MINERS

WASHINGTON -- A photo exhibit of black miners in Alabama during the late 1800's to the mid-1900's was the focus of a salute to black miners sponsored by the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) of the U.S. Department of Labor in observance of Black History Month.

"Black miners have made many valuable and noteworthy contributions to the our nation's mining industry, and their achievements and efforts deserve full recognition during the observance of Black History Month," said David A. Zegeer, assistant secretary for MSHA.

In his remarks, Zegeer reflected on the arduous conditions under which black and other miners worked over 90 years ago, compared to today.

"History will show that blacks have made great strides in the mining industry, and their courage and determination has set an example for others to follow," Zegeer said.

The agency's salute featured an exhibit of historical photographs of black miners in Birmingham, Ala. "Images of Work: Birmingham, 1894-1937," was loaned to the agency by the Alabama Folklife Association and the Archives of American Minority Cultures at the University of Alabama.

The photographs showed black miners performing such tasks as drilling an ore face, loading and pushing coal cars in underground mines, pulling a molten "muck ball" from a pudding furnace, casting pig iron, pulling coke from an oven and repairing track after a train derailment.

Other photographs showed workers in company-owned villages, a company store, and laborers in a convict-lease work gang.

The photographs were accompanied by text that detailed the experience of black miners, their life in company-owned villages, their wage rates, working hours and specific tasks involved in mining coal and founding iron.

The exhibit is funded by grants from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Committee for the Humanities in Alabama.

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Week of February 24, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT MANAGER CITED FOR OUTSTANDING ACCOMPLISHMENT

WASHINGTON -- Wilton Zanders, a senior level career manager with the U.S. Department of Labor here, was recognized for his outstanding accomplishments by the U.S. Treasury Department.

Zanders, financial manager for the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), was cited for outstanding nationwide management, coordination and accomplishments associated with the Treasury Department's cash management initiatives program.

Zanders' efforts helped the Labor Department save significant amounts of money by getting receipts deposited in the U.S. Treasury in an expedient manner.

In his role as OSHA's financial manager, Zanders oversees the program planning and federal budget process for the agency, as well as its financial management and grants management offices.

Zanders joined the Labor Department in 1969. Before that he worked for Riggs National Bank in Washington, D.C. Prior to that he served in the U.S. Army for 20 years, retiring as a sergeant major.

Zanders is a native of Palatka, Fla.

# # #

WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first federal activity to promote fair employment practices was the Fair Employment Practice Commission in 1941, which sought to eliminate discrimination in hiring in the defense industry, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1869, the first national black labor organization was formed, the Colored National Labor Union, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first federal bureau to attempt to ease labor-related racial tensions caused by blacks leaving the South was the Division of Negro Economics, in the Department of Labor in 1918, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed or color was the Ives-Quinn Act in New York in 1945, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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3/3/86

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BLACK NEWS DIGEST
WEEK OF MARCH 3, 1986

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BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 10 STATES TO RECEIVE AID

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE HAS HER EYE ON THE FUTURE

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JANUARY 1986

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Week of March 3, 1986

BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 10 STATES TO RECEIVE AID

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced $7.1 million in grants to black and other dislocated workers in Alabama, Illinois, Kentucky, New Jersey, New York, North Dakota, Ohio, Indiana, South Dakota and Wisconsin.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide workers who are unemployed due to plant closings and the impact of foreign imports with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the work force.

"Helping individuals who lost their jobs due to prevailing economic conditions is a priority of this Administration," Brock said. "Through JTPA, we can provide the necessary resources to help them sharpen their talents and skills to meet the needs of the local job market."

The Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs will receive $1,307,500 to assist coal miners in Walker County. A reemployment assistance center will be established to provide job search and retraining.

Illinois Central College and West Central Building Construction Trade Council will receive $925,000 to help workers from the Caterpillar Tractor Co. and other firms in the greater Peoria area. This project will offer job assessment and search in addition to classroom and on-the-job training.

The Kentucky Department of Employment Services Council will receive $800,000 to aid unemployed coal miners in major coal producing counties in eastern and western Kentucky. The miners will be provided with an extensive range of training and employment services in eight coal miner assistance centers.

The Middlesex County (N.J.) Employment and Training Department will receive $230,000 to assist workers dislocated as a result of Mattel Corp. and Manville Corp. plant closures. Employment registration and assessment with referrals to vocational or on-the-job training will be provided.

The Central New York Private Industry Council will receive $1,638,929 to operate a worker reemployment center for workers dislocated by the Allied Corp. plant closure and those permanently laid off from Carrier Corp., Bristol Laboratories, PICO Products, Millbrook Bakery, AT&T and General Electric. The center will provide "one stop" assistance including job assessment, job skills workshops, classroom and on-the-job training, entrepreneurial training and remedial education. Relocation assistance will also be provided.

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The North Dakota Job Service will receive $340,000 for Project REAP (Retrain-Employ-AgriWorkers-Profitably) to aid displaced farmers and farmworkers throughout the state. This project will complement existing employment and training activities and provide counseling, assessment, job search and training services.

The United Auto Workers (UAW)-Ford National Development and Training Center (NDTC) will receive $600,000 in a jointly funded undertaking with JTPA to assist UAW-Ford workers who have been laid off or are scheduled to be laid off in Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. This venture will provide for personal development, training and placement. A majority of participants are Ohio residents, however, the Governors of Indiana and Kentucky have endorsed this project.

The South Dakota Department of Labor will receive $750,000 to help farmers and ranchers unemployed due to foreclosures and an unfavorable economic climate. The funds will provide relocation assistance and job training.

Four projects will receive grants in Wisconsin: La Raza Unida, Inc. will receive $121,800 for workers dislocated due to the closing of the Thomas Industries plant in Fort Atkinson; the Southwest Wisconsin Private Industry Council will receive $96,425 for unemployed farmers and farmworkers; the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations in Watertown will receive $142,052 for dislocated workers from the Malleable Iron Range Co. plant closing in Monarch; and, the Department of Industry, Labor and Human Relations in Racine will receive $150,000 to assist workers dislocated by the phase out of the Outboard Marine Corp./Johnson Division Plant operations in Waukegan, Ill. The four projects will provide a variety of employment and training services.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been or are about to be laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or plant closings. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

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Week of March 3, 1986

BLACK LAPOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE HAS HER EYE ON THE FUTURE

WASHINGTON -- Barbara Jackson is a black woman with her eye on the future. She is the first black woman in the U.S. Labor Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG) here to pass the Certified Public Accountant (CPA) exam while employed with that office, and her plans don't stop there.

"I want to go as far as I can," said Jackson, who is an auditor and the national training coordinator for audits in the OIG's office.

Jackson came to the Labor Department in 1980 as a field auditor in the Chicago region. Prior to that she was with the State of Michigan's Department of Treasury, the Seagrams Company and Arthur Young and Company.

Jackson set her goals on becoming a certified public accountant during high school, in the 1960s. At that time, she realized her decision was a long shot at a nontraditional career for a black woman, but she was determined to see it through.

"Somebody once told me if I was going to be an accountant, I should be the best one I could. That meant becoming certified, so that's what I decided to do," Jackson said.

Jackson's quest to attain her goal did not come without personal and professional sacrifices.

"Money is not the only motivator for me," Jackson says, "I want to be included in decisions and to have a say in what is done. I want to be a manager.

"I had to work hard to become something, and I am proud of that," Jackson acknowledged. "And when I know that I am an asset to my profession; that alone will open doors for me."

A native of Brooklyn, N.Y., she attended New York City Community College and earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Medger Evers College in New York. She is a member of the Association of Government Accountants.

When time permits, Jackson serves as a volunteer for the Arena Stage Theater in Washington, D.C. She also enjoys several hobbies which include a variety of crafts, ceramics and macrame.

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PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JANUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods dropped 0.7 percent seasonally adjusted from December 1985 to January 1986, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had risen considerably in each month of the last quarter of 1985, following a period of virtually no net change from September 1984 through September 1985. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods also turned down in January, following three small monthly increases. Crude material prices fell 1.4 percent over the month, after decreasing by a smaller amount in December and climbing in each of the 3 months before that.

A dramatic downturn in prices for finished energy goods was responsible for most of the reversal in the Finished Goods Price Index in January. The consumer foods index also moved down, after substantial monthly advances at the end of 1985. Finished goods other than foods and energy eased down slightly, following an equally small rise in December.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved down 0.3 percent in January to 296.2 (1967=100). Over the year from January 1985 to January 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index increased 1.4 percent. During the same span, consumer food prices rose 0.4 percent, the index for finished energy goods moved down 1.0 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy climbed 2.4 percent, and capital equipment prices advanced 2.2 percent. The intermediate goods index declined 0.7 percent over the 12 months ended in January 1986, while crude material prices dropped 5.5 percent.

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Week of March 3, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Under the Job Training Partnership Act, more than 2 million persons receive employment and training services each year, according to a fact sheet issued by the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About 2,300 state employment service offices across the country make more than 3 million job placements annually, according to a U.S. Department of Labor fact sheet.

# # #

Minimum wage, overtime and child labor provisions of the federal Fair Labor Standards Act are enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration issues and enforces workplace safety and health standards and provides and encourages use of training for workers and employers in safe workplace procedures.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor was created to help workers but its activities affect many other people, including employers, civil rights groups, other government agencies and the academic community, according to a Labor Department fact sheet.

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Week of March 10, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION NOT 'SOMETHING FOR NOTHING,'
SAYS DOROTHY HEIGHT AT LABOR DEPARTMENT

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF LABOR WILLIAM E. BROCK
ON OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK, MARCH 2-8

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Week of March 10, 1986

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION NOT 'SOMETHING FOR NOTHING,' SAYS DOROTHY HEIGHT AT LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Affirmative action does not mean getting "something for nothing," but rather it is a way of providing opportunities, skills and ensuring that doors that might otherwise be closed to some are opened, Dorothy Height, president of the National Council of Negro Women, said at the Labor Department here.

Height made these remarks at a Black History Month luncheon sponsored by the department's Employment and Training Administration.

Height said "those who have taken a stand in support of affirmative action laws, like Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, deserve to be saluted.

"I really have to thank and salute the secretary of labor for the stand he has taken in support of affirmative action," Height said.

"The real meaning behind affirmative action is to make sure that those who have not had the opportunities get the skills and that doors are opened to them," she remarked.

Height said the "time is always right for justice" and it is time to have a workforce where there are opportunities for all.

Reflecting on the changing workforce and its impact on women, particularly black women, Height listed some of the accomplishments and contributions made on behalf of women by the Labor Department's Women's Bureau and its directors. She named Esther Peterson, Elizabeth Duncan Koontz, Alexis M. Herman and Lenora Cole Alexander, among others.

Height concluded her remarks by stressing the need for better role models for black youth.

"Young people more and more will just give up because they don't have the opportunities and proper role models. We need to become better role models for our youth," Height urged.

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Week of March 10, 1986

STATEMENT BY SECRETARY OF LABOR WILLIAM E. BROCK ON OBSERVANCE OF WOMEN'S HISTORY WEEK, MARCH 2-8

WASHINGTON -- Following is the text of a statement issued by Secretary of Labor William E. Brock on the observance of Women's History Week.

As we begin observance of Women's History Week, March 2-8, I believe that 1986 is going to be a watershed year for working women. This will be a year when history records not a social revolution but a social recognition of the compelling needs of working women and their families.

A century ago women suffragists were fighting for equality at the polls. Women made up only 15 percent of our work force, and less than 5 percent of all married women were wage earners. History has since chronicled great social, economic and political change. Today, women account for 42 percent of all workers in this country, and nearly 50 percent of all married women are in the labor force.

Balancing society's twin needs for stability in the family and equality in the workplace is as significant today as the issues which spurred nationwide movements earlier in the century.

We have travelled a scant two months into 1986, and already we have witnessed unprecedented national attention given the problems confronting countless women in their dual role as breadwinner and homemaker. The media have focused our attention particularly on social and economic dilemmas gripping many black families in America. A woman's ability to seek, find and hold a job looms large in that struggle.

But the problems of combining homemaking and breadwinning are not confined to any one demographic group. Women and their families everywhere are seeking to combine work and home life in meaningful and satisfying ways.

Within the Labor Department, the Women's Bureau, which recently celebrated its 65th anniversary, has steadfastly kept pace with the times. Its focus over the years has shifted from

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unmasking the sweatshops of the 20's to the challenges of the 80's. Child care, pregnancy disability, displaced homemakers, single heads of households and teenage mothers are now commanding the Bureau's attention.

Next month, on April 14-15, the Labor Department will proudly cosponsor a conference in Washington, D.C., with the Bureau of National Affairs. "Work and Family: Seeking a New Balance" will provide a national forum for addressing perplexing social and economic problems confronting parents in this nation's labor force.

With so much attention brought to bear on work-family issues, 1986 promises to be a turning point in our quest to strengthen the social fabric which interweaves work and family needs. Reinforcing our commitment to this essential goal would, indeed, result in an historic year for all, but especially for working women, in America.

# # #

WEEK OF MARCH 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first women's labor organization was one of maid servants in New York City in 1734, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first strike by federal government workers was by navy yard workers in Washington, D.C., in 1835, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first woman Secretary of Labor and the first woman cabinet officer was Frances Perkins. She was also the first Secretary of Labor to not belong to a union and the first to have a college education, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state to create a permanent agency to mediate labor disputes was New York in 1886, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR BLACK WORKERS LITTLE CHANGED FROM JANUARY TO FEBRUARY

BLACKS HONORED AT LABOR DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY

BLACK WOMAN RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD FROM LABOR SECRETARY BROCK

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Week of March 17, 1986

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR BLACK WORKERS LITTLE CHANGED FROM JANUARY TO FEBRUARY

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for blacks--14.8 percent--was little changed from January to February, remaining at the same general level of recent months, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The rate for black workers in January was 14.4 percent.

In February the jobless rate for black adult men was 13.3 percent, compared with 12.7 percent the previous month; for adult black women, 12.5 percent, compared with 12 percent in January. Among black teenagers, the unemployment rate was 39.1, compared with 41.9 percent in January.

Nationally, unemployment rose in February. The overall unemployment rate, 7.2 percent, and the rate for civilian workers, 7.3 percent, each increased six-tenths of a percentage point from January, returning to the levels that prevailed during the first half of last year.

The two surveys produced contrasting employment developments in February. The number of nonagricultural payroll jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--rose by 225,000, seasonally adjusted, despite declines in the goods-producing industries. Total civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--declined by 400,000, following an increase of the same magnitude in January (after allowance is made for population adjustments introduced into the survey in January). Half of the decline was among agricultural workers, who are not covered by the payroll survey.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Civilian unemployment rose by 700,000 to 8.5 million in February. This unusual increase was concentrated in certain groups in the economy. Two-thirds occurred in just three states--California, Texas, and Illinois; one-quarter was among Hispanics; and almost three-quarters was among workers aged 25 and over.

The civilian unemployment rate rose 0.6 percentage point in February to 7.3 percent, seasonally adjusted. The jobless rate had been improving slowly since last summer, and February's rise returns it to the level that prevailed throughout the first half of 1985. Most major labor force groups showed increases in their jobless rates. Rates for adult men (6.2 percent) and women (6.7 percent) and full-time workers (6.9 percent) were all about half a point higher than in the previous month. Joblessness for part-time workers rose a full point to 9.4 percent. The teenage unemployment rate, at 19.0 percent, was not significantly different from a month earlier. While the rates for whites (6.4 percent) and Hispanics (12.3 percent) were up sharply.

The rise in unemployment was evident in all duration categories, such that the median and mean were about unchanged in February, at 6.9 and 15.3 weeks, respectively. Unemployment increases were concentrated among those who lost their jobs and do not expect recall ("other job losers") and among labor force entrants, particularly reentrants. The number of job leavers and those on layoff were unchanged.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment fell almost 400,000 to 108.6 million in February, offsetting gains made in the previous month. Half of the February employment reduction came in agriculture. Adult men and women had reductions in employment of 320,000 and 270,000, respectively, while employment among teens rose 200,000. The employment-population ratio--the proportion of the civilian population with jobs--declined 0.2 percentage point to 60.4 percent, matching December's figure. Except for January's 60.6 percent, these proportions are the highest ever recorded.

The civilian labor force grew by 300,000 to 117.1 million in February. This was about 1.8 million higher than a year earlier (after correcting for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January). Adult women accounted for over 1 million of this increase, and adult men added about 850,000, while teenagers were about unchanged.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls increased by 225,000 in February to 99.7 million, after seasonal adjustment. The overall change was marked by a continuation of strength within the service-producing sector that was partially offset by declines in the goods-producing industries. The weakness in the goods sector was reflected in the fact that only about half of the industries in the BLS index of diffusion posted gains, in contrast to more widespread increases in the previous 4 months.

In the service-producing sector, the largest over-the-month gains took place in services and retail trade--nearly 120,000 in each, after seasonal adjustment. Taken together, their employment increased by 1.9 million over the year, accounting for nearly two-thirds of the jobs added to payrolls over this period. Sizable over-the-month employment increases also took place in finance, insurance, and real estate and wholesale trade. Altogether, employment rose by 295,000 in the service-producing sector.

Within the goods-producing sector, mining jobs fell by 15,000. All of this decline occurred in oil and gas extraction, which has been drifting downward since mid-1985. Construction employment dropped by 25,000 in February, after seasonal adjustment. This decline may have resulted from harsh weather conditions in February that followed much milder conditions in the prior month.

Manufacturing employment edged down by 30,000 over the month, after having exhibited small employment gains in each of the prior 4 months. This represented a return to the December employment total of 19.4 million.

-more-

The largest over-the-month decline occurred in the apparel industry, which fell by 15,000. Elsewhere in manufacturing, small declines occurred in fabricated metals, machinery, and motor vehicles and equipment.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls declined 0.2 hour to 35.0 hours, seasonally adjusted, in February. The manufacturing workweek decreased by 0.3 hour to 40.6 hours, down from the very high levels of the previous 2 months but otherwise in line with the relatively high levels that prevailed in the August-November period. Factory overtime also declined, by 0.1 hour to 3.4 hours. Weekly hours in construction fell markedly over the month, in large part the result of unusually bad weather that plagued much of the country during the survey reference week.

Due to the drop in hours, the index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls--which reflects developments in both hours and employment--dropped 0.3 percent to 118.9 (1977=100) in February. Indexes declined sharply over the month in construction, mining, and manufacturing.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose 0.5 percent in February, and weekly earnings were little changed, after adjustment for seasonality. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings were unchanged over the month at $8.74, and average weekly earnings were down $1.75 to $302.40. Over the past year, hourly earnings were up 22 cents, and weekly earnings rose $7.61.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 168.5 (1977=100) in February, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.6 percent from January. For the 12 months ended in February, the increase was 2.8 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI decreased 1.0 percent during the 12-month period ended in January.

# # #

Week of March 17, 1986

BLACKS HONORED AT LABOR DEPARTMENT AWARDS CEREMONY

WASHINGTON -- Five black employees of the U.S. Department of Labor have received the department's Distinguished Career Service Award and a sixth was presented the Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) Award at a ceremony held here.

The Distinguished Career Service Award, given "in recognition of career serviced marked by sustained high quality and efficiency," was presented to:

Betty Bolden, deputy assistant Secretary for administration and management; William J. Harris, director, Office of Civil Rights (OCR); Philip Johnson, a program analyst in the Occupational Safety and Health Administration; Grover H. Sanders, a manpower development specialist in the Employment and Training Administration, and Pinkie D. Wilson, a Wage and Hour Division analyst in the Employment Standards Administration.

Joyce Mitchell, a secretary with the Office of the Solicitor, received the EEO award.

Bolden was honored "for extraordinarily effective leadership in providing sound solutions to program management problems through her career."

As one of the highest career executives in the department, Bolden helps direct activities in areas including budget, personnel, administrative services, regional management, computer and library facilities and the internal equal employment opportunity program.

A Chicago native, Bolden received a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Illinois at Champaign and a Master of Arts degree from DePaul University in Chicago. She began her government career in 1967 under a one-year management intern program with the Chicago regional office of the U.S. Civil Service Commission, now the Office of Personnel Management.

Harris was recognized for "strong and continuing dedication to furthering the principles of civil rights and related legislation."

Harris joined the Labor Department' Chicago Regional Office in 1962 and has been in Washington since 1967. As director of OCR, Harris sees that those who receive money from the Labor Department comply with nondiscrimination and equal opportunity laws.

OCR is also responsible for the department's system through which federal employees and applicants for federal employment who feel they have been victims of discrimination can seek redress.

A native of Chicago, Harris earned a Bachelor of Science degree in education from Illinois State University in Bloomington. He is a resident of Silver Spring, Md.

-more-

Johnson was honored for "outstanding contributions to the improvement of OSHA's safety and health programs" and for managerial and technical skills to numerous specialized missions.

A native of Kent, Ohio, Johnson joined the Labor Department in July 1969. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration with a major in accounting from Central State University in Wilforce, Ohio, and later took two years of law studies at Ohio State University in Columbus. He resides in Silver Spring, Md.

Sanders was recognized for career advancement "marked by exceptional capability and commitment in support of employment and training program objectives."

A native of Clayton, N.C., Sanders joined the Labor Department in 1961. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in business administration from North Carolina Agricultural and Technical College in Greensboro. He resides in Upper Marlboro, Md.

Wilson's award was for "outstanding and dedicated service in enforcing the Fair Labor Standards Act in behalf of working people."

Wilson began her career with the Labor Department in 1968 as a GS-2 clerk. In 1980 she entered the department's internal Upward Mobility Program, which offers guidance in preparing employees for promotional opportunities through a program of job training and formal studies. She has since received several promotions and is now at the GS-12 level. Wilson, a native of Long Island, Va., is now a resident of New Carrollton, Md.

Mitchell was recognized for her "diligent and untiring" efforts in counseling employees and applicants who felt they had been discriminated against on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, age, sex or handicap, and for her "extremely valuable contributiion to the department's EEO program:

Mitchell joined the Labor Department in 1967. A native of Washington, D.C., she resides in Riverdale, Md., with her daughter, Sabrina.

More than 200 Labor Department employees across the country were honored at the ceremony; some will receive their awards at regional events. In addition to those persons cited above, numerous blacks were included in group awards honoring employees for their dedication and excellence in carrying out the program which help improve the well-being of this nation's wage earners.

In his remarks to employees at the ceremony, Secretary of Labor William E. Brock called the department "a rewarding place to work because our employees are committed to making the department's wide-ranging programs succeed.

"The men and women whose outstanding accomplishments we celebrate are part of a proud tradition of excellence in which we all share and take pride--and which enables us to face the future with confidence," Brock added.

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Week of March 17, 1986

BLACK WOMAN RECEIVES SPECIAL AWARD FROM LABOR SECRETARY BROCK

WASHINGTON -- Madeline Coleman, an official of the Labor Department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG), has received a special award from Secretary of Labor William E. Brock for her humanitarian efforts on behalf of a seriously injured fellow employee and his family.

Coleman received the Secretary of Labor's Recognition Award during the department's 73rd Honor Awards Ceremony held here.

The award reads: "For exceptional generosity and self-sacrifice in response to the needs of a fellow employee and his family at the time of critical injury."

A manager with the OIG's Office of Audit, Coleman was among the first to hear of an accident suffered by Joseph Daniel, an auditor with the OIG's regional office in Atlanta.

Daniel was struck by an out-of-control vehicle at Washington, D.C.'s National Airport. He suffered severe head injuries, was rushed to a local hospital and then evacuated to the shock trauma unit at the Washington Hospital Center. His wife rushed to Washington, D.C., that same day, Jan. 14.

By Feb. 10, Daniel had not regained consciousness, but his condition had stabilized so that he could be transferred to Emory University Hospital in Atlanta. His wife had remained with him in Washington during this time.

Upon hearing about the accident, Coleman immediately took the lead in coordinating efforts to assist Daniel and his family, including working with OIG's personnel office, the Office of Workers' Compensation Programs, the Office of the Solicitor and others.

Throughout the four weeks of Daniel's hospitalization here, Coleman spent evenings, Saturdays and Sundays with Mrs. Daniel at the hospital, took her shopping, to church and extended numerous other courtesies to Mrs. Daniel during a most difficult and traumatic experience. When Coleman could not be there herself, she recruited and scheduled other OIG staff members.

The nomination by J. Brian Hyland, inspector general, states, in part, that Coleman's "commitment of her own time and convenience was unstinting...We are all proud to know her and to be identified as her coworkers at the Department of Labor."

Coleman joined the Labor Deprtment in 1963 when she came to the Washington, D.C. area from her native Pittsburgh, Pa.

A program analyst, Coleman began her federal career as a clerk-typist.

She and her husband, Robert Earl, live in Washington, D.C. They have three grown children, Robert Earl III, Gwendolyn and Anthony.

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WEEK OF MARCH 17, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Employment of women advanced strongly during 1985, with most of the increase occurring in the first and fourth quarters, according to a publication of the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics. By the fourth quarter of 1985, nearly 48 million women were employed, well over 1 million more than a year earlier.

# # #

About 51.5 million women were in the labor force in the fourth quarter of 1985, according to a publication of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics, "Employment in Perspective: Women in the Labor Force."

# # #

The proportion of women, 16 and older, in the labor force climbed to 55 percent by the end of 1985, up from 54 percent at the end of 1984. Higher participation rates were recorded for all age groups except older workers 55 years and up, according to "Employment in Perspective: Women in the Labor Force ," a publication of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# # #

In the fourth quarter of 1985, the participation rate of black women in the labor force (57 percent) remained higher than that for white women (54 percent). Participation rates for Hispanic women, at 50 percent, continued to be well below those of white or black women, according to "Employment in Perspective: Women in the Labor Force: a publication of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# # #

3/24/86

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UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

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Week of March 24, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--FEBRUARY 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of March 24, 1986

12 BLACKS CITED FOR EFFORTS TO REDUCE COSTS AT U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Twelve black employees in the U.S. Department of Labor's Division of Printing have received the department's Meritorious Achievement Award at a ceremony held at the department's headquarters here.

Maurice Wade, a printing specialist; Verla Johns, a production controller; Barbara Truesdale, a bindery machine operator, and Doris Carter, a forms manager, were cited for their efforts which saved the Labor Department thousands of dollars by having most of its forms printed in-house on new electronic equipment as opposed to contracting the work out. The cost saving was at least $100 per form, according to the citation.

The new equipment also replaced outdated equipment which was incapable of performing many of the tasks now done on the new equipment.

Eight other employees in the same division were recognized for their efforts which saved the Labor Department over $17,000.

Toward the end of fiscal year 1984, the eight employees became aware of the financial difficulty the in-house printing plants in the federal government were experiencing and felt this could adversely affect their employment.

The employees, many of them members of a quality circle team whose purpose is to improve the quality of work and productivity, began to discuss and identify some of the problems facing them, especially those detailed in a Grace Commission Report on in-house printing facilities. The group decided to find ways to cut costs and begin a "cost recovery" project of their own.

The quality circle interviewed the staffs of several federal government printing facilities, particularly those that were scheduled to close. They also interviewed vendors who supplied equipment and other materials to those departments. Later, the circle did a cost comparison. At the end of their factfinding, the circle members returned to their own facility to research and determine their compliance with the Grace Commission's report.

After an analysis of their own facility, the quality circle discovered that it was in compliance with all but one of the commission's recommendations. The circle used the opportunity to improve its overall productivity level by securing surplus equipment and supplies without cost to the department.

At the end of the project, the quality circle actively involved others in their division by motivating them to initiate projects to cut costs and save money.

The eight employees are: Richard Brown, offset press operator; Calvin Copeland, offset photographer; Joseph Durphy, offset press operator; Stevie Liggins, supply clerk; Clarence Lindsay, offset press operator; Justena Lumpkin, management analyst; Harry Ray Jr., film assembler stripper, and Armstead Swann, offset press operator.

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Week of March 24, 1986

BLACK FEMALE EMPLOYESS, OTHERS TO BE CITED DURING LABOR DEPARTMENT'S FEDERAL WOMEN'S WEEK OBSERVANCE

WASHINGTON -- Black female employees and others in the U.S. Department of Labor will be recognized for personal achievement and outstanding performance during the 13th annual observance of Federal Women's Week April 7-11 here.

Elaine B. Murrell, Federal Women's Program Coordinator for the department said, "Federal Women's Week is a time when we recognize the important contributions and achievements made by women in the federal sector.

"More importantly, it is a time when black women and others can network,communicate and examine many of the options that are available to them in today's workforce. They can also learn from our panelists and speakers what skills they will need not only today but for the future," Murrell said.

Career strategies for occupational and personal growth are among the topics that will be examined during this year's annual observance.

The activities scheduled for the week reflect the theme of this year's observance, "Commitment to Excellence: Blueprint to Success." Panel discussions on technology and the changing workplace, optional career opportunities for women, personal power and human relations and financial planning will highlight the week's many activities.

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Week of March 24, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--FEBRUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell 1.6 percent seasonally adjusted from January to February, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. This was the largest one-month decrease since the Finished Goods Price Index was first calculated in 1947. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods moved down a near-record 1.4 percent, after a 0.4 percent decline a month earlier. Crude material prices dropped 5.0 percent, likewise close to the largest decrease ever registered.

The substantial declines at all three major stages of processing were principally due to steep reductions in prices for most energy goods. Prices for many food-related items declined as well. Prices for a broad range of crude and intermediate materials other than foods and energy also moved down somewhat in February, while the index for finished goods other than foods and energy showed no change.

Most price indexes for energy goods are now back to the levels that prevailed in 1979 or 1980. The index for finished energy goods, for example, is at the lowest level since January 1980, and the crude petroleum index now nearly matches its December 1979 level.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods decreased 1.3 percent in February to 292.3 (1967=100). Over the year from February 1985 to February 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index edged down 0.1 percent. During the same period, prices received by producers of consumer foods fell 1.2 percent, the finished energy goods index dropped 8.0 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy advanced 2.2 percent, and capital equipment prices rose 1.7 percent. The intermediate goods index declined 1.6 percent over the 12 months ended in February 1986, and crude material prices were down 8.7 percent.

# # #

Week of March 24, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The number of women employed in executive, administrative and managerial positions jumped almost 12 percent during 1985, while employment of female machine operators, assemblers and inspectors dropped 3.7 percent, according to a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# # #

During 1985, women's median weekly earnings were $283 in the fourth quarter of the year, an advance of 4.8 percent, or $13 over the year, according to a report of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

During 1985, the female-to-male weekly earnings ratio continued to rise, reaching 69 percent in the fourth quarter, compared with 68 and 64 percent in the fourth quarters of 1984 and 1980, according to a report of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

3/31/86

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Week of March 31, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

'BLACK YOUTH GROWING UP WITHOUT JOB EXPERIENCE NEEDED TO SUCCEED IN LABOR MARKET'

DISADVANTAGED YOUTH TO RECEIVE LITERACY TRAINING THROUGH SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS

BROCK ANNOUNCES $108.7 MILLION FOR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

FIVE BLACK WOMEN NAMED TO LABOR DEPARTMENT'S FEDERAL WOMEN'S PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL

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Week of March 31, 1986

´BLACK YOUTH GROWING UP WITHOUT JOB EXPERIENCE NEEDED TO SUCCEED IN LABOR MARKET´

WASHINGTON -- "A large part of an entire generation of young blacks in this country is growing up without the job experience upon which to build future success in the labor market," said Janet L. Norwood, commissioner of the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor.

In remarks before a congressional subcommittee on employment and housing, Norwood discussed some of the unemployment problems and related labor market issues faced by black workers and youth.

The commissioner noted that high school dropouts and minority youth, particularly black youth, have very serious problems in the labor market.

"The problem of black youth, especially those in their teenage years, is quite severe," Norwood said. "The jobless rate for black teenagers, now 39 percent, has been around the 40 to 50 percent range for some years now.

"Their jobless rate is much higher than that for white teenagers and their labor force participation is much lower. Only about 1 in every 4 black teenager has a job, whereas almost 1 in every 2 white teenager is employed."

Norwood explained that jobless rates among dropouts in the 16 to 24 year age group are two and a half times that those for high school graduates. In addition, their level of labor force participation is quite low.

"Only two-thirds of the young dropouts are in the labor market, compared with more than 8 out of 10 of those who have high school diplomas but no college training," the commissioner explained.

"We are talking about a group of 4.3 million dropouts between the ages of 16 and 24, 1.4 million of whom are not in the labor force at all and 800,000 of whom are looking for but cannot find work," she said.

Norwood noted that the problems of minority unemployment are not confined to youth. "Adult jobless rates are also much higher for blacks than for whites," she said.

Norwood noted that although education does help to bring about better job experience, at all levels of education, the black labor market experience comes up short of whites.

"We know, for example, that unfortunately much of our minority population has not received the kind of education that the white population has had. Black workers frequently have not had the opportunity to gain the job experience so necessary for successful performance in the labor market," she remarked.

In addition, the commissioner remarked, "a large part of our minority population live in areas where employment is declining; they have difficulty in finding transportation or in moving to the areas where jobs may be expanding."

(more)

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Norwood went on to explain that despite the labor market improvement among blacks during the recovery period, there has not been any narrowing in the long-term gap in black/white labor market success.

"When a black worker is unemployed, the period of joblessness is generally much longer than for whites," she said.

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Week of March 24, 1986

DISADVANTAGED YOUTH TO RECEIVE LITERACY TRAINING THROUGH SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAMS.

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced plans to enrich the Summer Youth Program with remedial education and vocational training for disadvantaged youth, particulary in the area of literacy training.

"There are more than five million high school dropouts in this country today, and the situation is not getting any better," Brock said.

Brock added, "This Administration is committed to helping young people prepare themselves for employment. Encouraging them to stay in school is a vital step in this process."

The announcement comes after extensive research that shows youth, particularly disadvantaged youth, lose ground academically during the summer months. When they return to school in the fall, the youth are often well behind their previous achievement levels. The resulting frustration may, in turn, contribute to the high dropout rate among disadvantaged youth who are already considered to be a high risk.

The findings are supported by the fact that high school graduates earn 80 percent more than nongraduates during their first 10 years out of school. The findings also illustrate that dropouts are three times more likely to be unemployed.

"The facts show that high school dropouts lack basic skills required for the job performance," Brock said. "This fact coupled with the lack of credentials almost assures that these youth will not have access to good jobs or possibly any job."

States are encouraged to assess the literacy levels of Summer Youth Program participants to determine whether they meet local education standards. Where youth are found to fall below these standards, they would be enrolled in remedial education training as part of the summer program. Those who meet the educational standards could be enrolled in vocational training.

The training will be administered by States under Title II-B of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (SYETP). The program provides economically disadvantaged youth with employment and related training and educational services during the summer months. Funds are available for basic and remedial education, institutional and on-the-job training, work experience programs and supportive employment services.

# # #

Week of March 31, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $108.7 MILLION FOR SUMMER YOUTH PROGRAM

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced the allocation of an additional $108.7 million to provide summer employment, training and educational services for economically disadvantaged youth.

The funds announced are in addition to $661 million already allotted on a formula basis.

"Teens without skills or experience can't get a foothold on the first rung of the employment ladder," Brock stated. "We want to give them the opportunity to learn valuable skills to compete in the job market."

Young Americans now suffer an unemployment rate over two and one-half times that of adults. "The funds we are adding today will help underwrite the additional cost of literacy and job training," Brock added.

Funds are administered to states under Title II-B of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) for the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program (SYETP). The program provides economically disadvantaged youth with employment and related training and educational services from May through September. Funds are available for basic and remedial education, work experience programs, on-the-job training and supportive employment services.

Attached are the state allocations for 1986 based on amounts to Service Delivery Areas, the geographical areas within states that have individual training programs established under JTPA.

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STATE	SUMMER 86	RESERVE FUNDS	TOTAL SUMMER 86
ALABAMA	16,134,137	866,158	17,000,295
ALASKA	1,787,103	68,002	1,855,105
ARIZONA	6,591,446	1,746,927	8,338,373
ARKANSAS	7,564,996	507,013	8,072,009
CALIFORNIA	69,276,382	7,483,833	76,760,215
COLORADO	6,627,828	894,394	7,162,222
CONNECTICUT	6,242,234	2,700,454	8,942,688
DELAWARE	1,646,188	40,150	1,686,338
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	5,066,748	2,343,155	7,409,903
FLORIDA	22,740,076	4,901,065	27,641,141
GEORGIA	12,810,390	1,828,547	14,638,937
HAWAII	1,927,350	612,096	2,539,446
IDAHO	2,774,323	235,723	3,010,046
ILLINOIS	36,454,917	9,051,145	45,506,062
INDIANA	16,432,697	3,941,920	20,374,617
IOWA	7,367,803	718,760	8,086,563
KANSAS	3,354,109	1,598,442	4,952,551
KENTUCKY	12,968,148	1,134,686	14,102,834
LOUISIANA	17,304,763	47,836	17,352,599
MAINE	2,668,288	717,638	3,385,926
MARYLAND	7,897,369	4,753,967	12,651,336
MASSACHUSETTS	12,646,941	5,959,740	18,606,681
MICHIGAN	34,946,516	2,910,984	37,857,500
MINNESOTA	8,350,243	2,277,308	10,627,551
MISSISSIPPI	10,516,692	261,342	10,778,034
MISSOURI	12,151,757	3,228,521	15,380,278
MONTANA	2,340,954	23,463	2,364,417
NEBRASKA	2,364,187	882,445	3,246,632
NEVADA	2,579,065	0	2,579,065
NEW HAMPSHIRE	1,646,188	376,588	2,022,776
NEW JERSEY	16,344,360	7,805,703	24,150,063
NEW MEXICO	4,278,014	555,691	4,833,705
NEW YORK	44,775,272	10,411,725	55,186,997
NORTH CAROLINA	13,785,791	2,516,952	16,302,743
NORTH DAKOTA	1,646,188	0	1,646,188
OHIO	33,312,796	5,962,867	39,275,663
OKLAHOMA	8,088,794	203,919	8,292,713
OREGON	9,668,525	343,412	10,011,937
PENNSYLVANIA	35,721,038	4,414,125	40,135,163
PUERTO RICO	26,078,369	0	26,078,369
RHODE ISLAND	2,358,720	901,525	3,260,245
SOUTH CAROLINA	8,074,082	958,902	9,032,984
SOUTH DAKOTA	1,646,188	0	1,646,188
TENNESSEE	14,789,657	1,561,821	16,351,478
TEXAS	35,054,605	3,607,452	38,662,057
UTAH	3,361,179	252,192	3,613,371
VERMONT	1,646,188	0	1,646,188
VIRGINIA	9,631,448	4,505,433	14,136,881
WASHINGTON	14,046,229	251,623	14,297,852
WEST VIRGINIA	9,038,456	0	9,038,456
WISCONSIN	11,851,451	2,316,706	14,168,157

-more-

WYOMING	1,646,188	0	1,646,188
AMERICAN SAMOA	55,003	0	55,003
GUAM	670,830	0	670,830
NORTHERN MARIANAS IS.	25,730	0	25,730
REP.OF PALAU	7,757	0	7,757
YAP ST.IN MICRONESIA	5,184	0	5,184
TRUK ST. IN MICRONESIA	24,008	0	24,008
PONAPE ST.IN MICRONESIA	14,138	0	14,138
KOSRAE ST. IN MICRONESIA	3,518	0	3,518
REP. OF THE MARSHALL IS.	19,769	0	19,769
TRUST TERRITORY	74,374	0	74,374
VIRGIN ISLANDS	380,370	0	380,370
NATIONAL TOTAL	660,869,683	108,682,350	769,552,033

# # #

Week of March 31, 1986

FIVE BLACK WOMEN NAMED TO LABOR DEPARTMENT'S FEDERAL WOMEN'S PROGRAM ADVISORY COUNCIL

WASHINGTON -- Five black women employees have been named to the advisory council of the U.S. Department of Labor's Federal Women's Program (FWP), a special emphasis program designed to increase job opportunities for women.

In announcing the new appointments, Elaine B. Murrell, the department's FWP coordinator, said the new advisory council members have "unique skills and abilities that will enhance and contribute to the overall effectiveness of the Federal Women's Program in the Labor Department."

The new members are D. Faye Ellis, Sandra Johnson, Alice McKenzie, Brenda Murray and Velma Speight.

The Federal Women's Program Advisory Council and its members manage FWP activities in the department's agencies. These activities include sponsoring programs designed to improve the employment status of federally employed women and initiating programs designed to introduce these women to educational and training opportunities which prepare them for promotions up to and including executive-level positions.

In addition, council members work closely with personnel and equal employment opportunity managers to establish and ensure that guidelines are established regarding the consideration of women for positions available in the department.

D. Faye Ellis, a disclosure reporting specialist with the Office of Labor Management Standards (OLMS), joined the Labor Department in 1972. She began her federal career in 1968. Prior to that she served in the U.S. Army for three years. As the FWP manager for OLMS, Ellis plans to sponsor several seminars and workshops, including sessions on women entreprenuers and risk taking. She is a native of Farmville, N.C.

"I feel that women, especially black women, should be more aware of some of the job options available to them," Ellis said.

"As the number of women business owners continues to increase, black women are beginning to look more seriously at the possibility of becoming entrepreneurs. But they need assistance and information on how to do get started," she said.

Sandra Johnson, a processing assistant with the department's International Labor Affairs Bureau, joined the Labor Department in 1967. The Washington, D.C., native has a bachelor's degree in public administration from the University of the District of Columbia and is a member of the American Society for Public Administrators.

Alice McKenzie, a native of Newport News, Va., has been with the federal government and the Labor Department since 1969. She is a supervisory personnel management specialist with the Employment and Training Administration (ETA).

(more)

She attended college for two years and has completed further study in the area of personnel management. As the FWP manager for ETA, one of her first projects will be to offer seminars on employment benefits in the area of automatic data processing (ADP).

Brenda Murray joined the Labor Department in 1971. She is a management analyst with the Office of the Solicitor. As the FWP manager for her agency she plans to reestablish a framework for activities and programs that will benefit the women in her agency. A native of Norfolk, Va., she is a graduate of St. Augustine College, Raleigh, N.C.

Velma Speight is a supervisory auditor in the Office of the Inspector General. She began her federal career in 1968 and joined the Labor Department in 1970. She has a bachelor's degree in accounting from North Carolina A & T University, Raleigh, N.C. She is a member of the Association of Government Accountants and Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. She is active in various community organizations and serves as a den leader for the Cub Scouts and is treasurer of the P.T.A. She is a native of Kinston, N.C.

Speight said she plans to work closely with management to help increase their awarness of the number of black women and others who are qualified to fill professional level positions.

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Week of March 31, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Enterprises owned by women now comprise one of the fastest growing segments of the business community, according to "From Homemaking to Entrepreneurship: A Readiness Training Program," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

Data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics indicate that between 1980 and 1984 the number of self-employed women in nonagricultural industries rose 22 percent, according to "From Homemaking to Entrepreneurship: A Readiness Training Program," published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

Women-owned nonfarm sole proprietorships numbered 2.6 million in 1982, or 26.2 percent of all nonfarm sole proprietorships; they generated $41.7 billion in receipts and $5.2 billion in net income, according to "From Homemaking to Entrepreneurship: A Readiness Training Program" published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

7/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

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Week of April 7, 1986

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BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 3 STATES
TO RECEIVE AID

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REAL EARNINGS IN FEBRUARY 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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206-442-7620

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Oregon
Washington

Week of April 7, 1986

'BLACK WOMEN MUST BE PREPARED TO MEET NEW OPPORTUNITIES,' SAYS BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL

WASHINGTON -- "Black women must ready themselves to address the many demands of the changing work environment by being fully prepared for any new opportunity that may come along," according to Elaine B. Murrell, Federal Women's Program manager for the U.S. Department of Labor here.

"Preparation is a key element to moving up, especially for black women," she said.

"You have to be ready when an opportunity comes and you must be willing to take a risk. And black women need to take more risks when it comes to moving into new and challenging areas of work. But they must also be prepared to face the consequences if things don't work out," Murrell said.

As the Labor Department holds its 13th annual observance of Federal Women's Week, April 7-11, Murrell said she is concerned about the future of all women workers.

Murrell explained that the purpose of Federal Women's Week is to acknowledge the achievements of women and men who have made contributions to the advancement of federally employed women.

"Its an opportunity to present seminars, workshops and other activities which focus on the problems confronting women in the workplace, issues that women and men need to know about in terms of problems unique to women," Murrell said.

As manager of the Federal Women's Program (FWP), Murrell is responsible for improving employment and advancement opportunities for over 7,000 women employed by the Labor Department.

In order for black women to move ahead, Murrell said they also need to fully understand how the office works, knowing where the power lies and being able to function and move ahead within those parameters.

Murrell said she believes there is a need for black women to increase and strengthen their system of networking and mentoring.

"Everyone doesn't have to go out and beat the bushes and look for a mentor," she said, "but certainly that's not to be denied as a way."

Since she became the Labor Department's FWP manager in 1980, Murrell said she feels that she has helped to further develop and strengthen the overall Federal Women's Program.

"Over the years we have brought to the forefront many of the problems and issues that people needed to be aware of. We've helped to, I hope, raise the awareness and sensitivity level of management and supervisors and the sensitivity of women as well," she said.

(more)

Murrell describes herself as a risk taker and a goal setter. Among the goals she has set for this year include coordinating workshops and seminars on employment issues for women, developing a mentoring program for entry-level support employees, preparing an annual report on the status of women in the department, holding an annual training program for agency FWP managers and working toward increasing the number of women in professional level jobs.

Until recently, Murrell was the department's Upward Mobility program coordinator. Each year she coordinates the department's annual Martin Luther King Jr., birthday observance and the Black History Month activities.

She is an active member of Federally Employed Women, chairperson of the Federal Women's Interagency Board and an active member in her community civic association, the Kettering Civic Federation of Prince Georges County, Md.

Murrell, a native of Farmville, N.C., is a graduate of Bennett College, Greensboro, N.C. She has a master's degree in human resource development from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

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Week of April 7, 1986

BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 3 STATES TO RECEIVE AID

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $2,037,402 for dislocated workers including blacks, in Iowa, West Virginia and Kansas. The workers in Iowa and West Virginia are unemployed due to mass layoffs and plant shutdowns. In Kansas, farmers and farmworkers have lost their jobs due to adverse economic conditions. The workers will receive re-training and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

"The job market is in tremendous transition," Secretary Brock stated. "Assistance to those whose jobs are lost because of this transition is a high priority of this Administration. Through JTPA, we can help them adapt their talents and energies to new enterprises."

The Iowa Office of Planning and Programming will receive $500,000 to assist up to 550 workers affected by mass layoffs at the Firestone tire plant in Des Moines and the John Deere agricultural manufacturing plant in Waterloo. The project also aids workers displaced by the Rath Packing Company shutdown in Waterloo. The areas affected by the plant closures and layoffs include Black Hawk, Bremer, Buchanan, Butler, Chickasaw, Grundy, Boone, Dallas, Jasper, Madison, Polk, Story, Marion and Warren counties. Workers will receive job search assistance, on-the-job and classroom training, transportation, health and dental care and needs-based payments.

West Virginia's Private Industry Council of Kanawha County will receive $537,402 for up to 200 workers displaced by the Ford Machinery Chemical Corporation plant shutdown in South Charleston. The project is designed to provide job search assistance, on-the-job and classroom training in robotics and digital electronics, and needs-based payments.

The Kansas Department of Human Resources Division of Employment will operate a $1,000,000 statewide program for up to 500 dislocated farmers and farmworkers. The project will provide job search assistance, counseling, on-the-job and classroom training and needs-based services.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of April 7, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--FEBRUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment in February to a level of 327.5 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in February, the CPI-U increased 3.2 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.3 percent in February prior to seasonal adjustment. The February 1986 CPI-W level of 323.2 (1967=100) was 3.0 percent higher than the index in February 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U declined 0.4 percent in February, after registering a 0.3 percent increase in January. The February decline represents the first decrease since December 1982 and the largest drop since a 0.4 percent decline in November 1953. Declines in energy and food prices were principally responsible for the downturn in the February CPI. Prices for energy commodities--fuel oil, coal, bottled gas, and motor fuels--dropped 6.8 percent in February, primarily reflecting the recent drop in crude oil prices. The grocery store food index decreased 1.0 percent, largely as a result of declines in prices for fresh fruits and vegetables and for meats. Excluding food and energy, the CPI rose 0.2 percent in February, somewhat less than in recent months. The slowdown among items other than food and energy has occurred primarily in the prices for goods, with commodities other than food and energy declining 0.1 percent in February, compared with an average monthly increase of 0.3 percent in the preceding 4 months. Services excluding energy rose 0.4 percent in February.

NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics currently is completing a major revision of the Consumer Price Index. Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1987 on February 27, 1987, the Bureau will introduce revised versions of the current CPI's both for All Urban Consumers and for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. The revised CPI's will reflect more current population and spending patterns and numerous technical enhancements. See page 3 for further details.

-more-

The transportation component, reflecting a sharp drop in prices for motor fuels, declined 1.4 percent in February, after advancing 0.5 percent in January. Gasoline prices declined 5.9 percent in February, receding to their level just prior to the April 1, 1983, increase in the Federal excise tax, and are now 16.6 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Used car prices--down 0.4 percent--also contributed to the February decline in the transportation component. During the 12-month period ended in February, the used car index has declined 3.6 percent. On the other hand, new car prices rose 0.4 percent in February and have increased 3.0 percent in the past 12 months. Automobile insurance costs continued to advance, increasing 0.9 percent in February. In the past 12 months, these costs have advanced 13.0 percent. The index for public transportation rose 0.6 percent as another sharp increase in intracity mass transit fees was partially offset by declines in fares for airlines and trains.

The food and beverage component registered a decline of 0.6 percent in February, following an increase of 0.3 percent in January. Grocery store food prices decreased 1.0 percent, reflecting a sharp turnaround in fruit and vegetable prices and the second drop in a row for the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. The February decline of 13.1 percent in fresh fruit and vegetable prices brought their level to 6.4 percent below that of a year ago. February declines in beef and pork prices--down 1.8 and 1.2 percent, respectively-- also brought their prices below their year earlier levels. Poultry prices increased 0.1 percent, but remained slightly less than in February 1985. Among other categories of grocery store foods, the index for other foods at home rose 2.2 percent, principally reflecting a sharp increase in coffee prices. The indexes for roasted coffee and for freeze dried and instant coffee rose 26.7 and 15.1 percent, respectively. The indexes for cereal and bakery products and dairy products rose only slightly for the second consecutive month. Restaurant meals rose 0.1 percent and alcoholic beverages declined 0.1 percent.

The housing component declined 0.1 percent in February, following an increase of 0.3 percent in January. A record drop in fuel oil prices and a small decrease in the index for household furnishings and operations were only partially offset by small-to-moderate increases in most other housing components. Fuel oil prices -- down 11.5 percent in February--are now 21.9 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Among other fuels, charges for electricity and gas rose 0.6 and 0.7 percent, respectively. The shelter component rose 0.4 percent in February, the same as in each of the preceding 2 months. These recent increases for shelter compare with an average monthly rate of increase of 0.5 percent in 1985. Within shelter, renters' costs and homeowners' costs both increased 0.3 percent in February.

The index for apparel and upkeep -- down 0.5 percent in February -- declined for the second consecutive month. Clothing prices, reflecting the continuation of larger than usual seasonal price reductions, declined 0.6 percent. Charges for apparel services were unchanged.

The February increase of 0.7 percent in the medical care component follows a 0.4 percent rise in January. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies --rose 0.9 percent. The index for medical care services rose 0.6 percent, with the costs of professional services and hospital rooms up 0.5 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

-more-

The index for entertainment rose 0.2 percent in February, following a 0.9 percent increase in January . Declines in prices for entertainment commodities partially offset the second consecutive large increase in the index for entertainment services.

The other goods and services component advanced 0.6 percent in February, after increasing 0.9 percent in January. A smaller increase in prices for tobacco products--up 0.6 percent in February, following a 1.6 percent rise in January--was responsible for the moderation.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers declined 0.5 percent in February.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX REVISION

The Bureau of Labor Statistics will begin publishing a revised Consumer Price Index (CPI) with the release of the January 1987 index in February 1987. As a result of the revision, both the CPI-U and the CPI-W will have updated expenditure weights based upon data tabulated from 3 years (1982, 1983, and 1984) of the Consumer Expenditure Survey, replacing the current expenditure weights based on 1972-73 data. The Bureau periodically revises the expenditure weights to reflect price changes of items currently being purchased by consumers.

The January 1987 CPI also will introduce a greatly enhanced housing survey, which will improve the rental equivalence measure of homeownership costs in both the CPI-U and CPI-W. The new housing sample was designed to represent optimally both owners and renters in the estimation of shelter costs.

-more-

A number of methodological and sampling advances first introduced in the 1978 revision also have been enhanced and will be incorporated into the CPI for January 1987. For example, the selection of the urban areas and the allocation of outlet samples in which prices are collected for the CPI were done by the Bureau with the primary objective of producing the most accurate national CPI possible with the funds available. The January 1987 index also will be based, for the first time, on the geographic distribution of consumers as of the 1980 Census of Population. The current CPI uses the 1970 Census of Population. The requirement to allocate the sample to provide the most accurate national CPI did result in some local areas not having samples sufficient to permit frequent publication. Therefore, beginning in January 1987, the Bureau will publish a number of local area CPI's less frequently. The areas affected by the changes in publication are identified later in this announcement.

Both the CPI-U and the CPI-W published for January 1987 will be linked to the present series of each index as of December 1986 to provide a continuous series. The linking will be accomplished by setting the index levels of the revised CPI with the updated expenditure weights and samples equal to those published for the present series in December 1986. Each index will move upward or downward from the December 1986 level in accordance with subsequent changes in prices.

As in the past, the Bureau will publish selected indexes using the old expenditure weights for 6 months after the issuance of the revised CPI. Unlike earlier revisions, these overlap indexes will not be based on the old samples and will differ from the revised indexes only by their expenditure weights. The base period for the revised CPI issued for January 1987 will be 1967=100, the same as for the present index.

In addition to the national all-city average CPI-U and CPI-W indexes,the Bureau now publishes indexes for 28 local areas. In 1987, it will continue to publish indexes for all but one of these areas -- Northeast Pennsylvania (Scranton-Wilkes-Barre). Because of the requirement to allocate the sample to provide the most accurate national CPI possible, 13 of the remaining 27 published areas will be published less frequently.

Beginning in 1987, the index for Detroit, currently published monthly, will be published only for the even-numbered months. Twelve areas now published bimonthly will be compiled on a semiannual average basis. These areas are: Buffalo-Niagara Falls, N.Y.; Cincinnati-Hamilton, Ohio-Ky.-Ind; Kansas City, Mo.-Kansas City, Kan.; Milwaukee, Wis.; Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.-Wis.; Atlanta, Ga.; Anchorage, Alaska; Denver-Boulder, Colo.; Honolulu, Hawaii; Portland-Vancouver, Ore.-Wash.; San Diego, Calif.; and Seattle-Tacoma, Wash. These semiannual average indexes, which refer to the arithmetic averages of the 6-month periods from January through June and July through December, will be published with release of the CPI for July and January, respectively, i.e., in the months of August and February. These series will be compiled and published on their present reference bases, 1967=100 for all areas other than Anchorage, which is on an October 1967 reference base. Also, the Cleveland-Akron-Lorain, Ohio, indexes will be published for odd-numbered rather then even-numbered months.

Indexes also are currently published bimonthly for 4 regions, 5 size classes, and 16 region-by-size groups. Beginning with January 1987, publication will become monthly; two of the size classes will be combined; and two of the region-by-size groups will be eliminated.

# # #

Week of April 7, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN FEBRUARY 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent from January to February after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This increase stemmed from a 0.5 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.5 percent decrease in the Consumer Price Index, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). The increase was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 2.6 percent between February of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings. Average weekly hours were unchanged over the year. After adjustment for a 3.0 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings decreased 0.4 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $302.40 in February 1986, compared with $294.79 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased by 1.0 percent from January to February. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI decreased by 0.2 percent. (See tables 1 and 2.) The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of April 7, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of April 14, 1986

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Week of April 14, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE ALMOST UNCHANGED IN MARCH

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was almost unchanged in March, at 14.7 percent. A month earlier the rate was 14.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The unemployment rate for black adult men edged down slightly over the month from 13.3 to 12.6 percent. The jobless rate for black adult women edged down from 12.5 to 12.2 percent.

The jobless rate for black youth was 43.7 percent in March; it was 39.1 percent a month earlier.

The overall unemployment rate, 7.1 percent, and the civilian rate, 7.2 percent, were about the same as in February but somewhat higher than the rates that prevailed between last August and January.

The number of nonagricultural payroll jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--edged up by about 190,000 in March. As in the previous month, weakness in the goods-producing sector was more than offset by strength in the service-producing sector. Total civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--was little changed over the month.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons--8.4 million, seasonally adjusted--was about unchanged in March, as was the civilian worker unemployment rate of 7.2 percent. Likewise, most of the major labor force groups showed little or no over-the-month change in joblessness. March's unemployment rates for adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (6.6 percent), and teenagers (18.2 percent) were either the same or were virtually unchanged both from February and a year earlier. The unemployment rate for Hispanics (10.3 percent) decreased 2 percentage points, a return to the levels of recent months, while the jobless rates for whites (6.2 percent) were about the same as in February.

The median duration of unemployment in March stood at 6.8 weeks, close to the levels of recent months. The average (mean) duration dropped to 14.4 weeks. There were essentially no changes in either the major duration or reasons for unemployment categories.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment was virtually unchanged in March at 108.8 million, after seasonal adjustment. An increase in agricultural employment in March

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reversed the decline of the previous month that may have been weather-related. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs (the employment-population ratio) remained at February's high level of 60.4 percent.

The civilian labor force stood at 117.2 million, after seasonal adjustment, little different from the prior month. Over the year, the labor force rose by 1.6 million (after adjustment for the revisions in the population introduced in January).

Discouraged Workers (Household Survey Data)

In the first quarter of 1986, there were 1.1 million discouraged workers--persons who wanted to work but did not actively look for jobs because they believed that they could not find work. Seventy percent of the total cited job-market factors as their reason for discouragement. The remainder cited personal factors. Over the year, the number of discouraged workers declined by 170,000.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment edged up by 190,000 in March to 99.8 million, seasonally adjusted, marking the second month of slow job growth. The March change reflected a continuation of strength within the service-producing sector that was partially offset by declines in the goods-producing industries. The service sector has accounted for virtually all of the 2.9 million over-the-year increase in employment. As was the case in February, March increases occurred in only about half of the industries in the BLS index of diffusion, which is heavily weighted toward the goods industries.

In the service-producing sector, the largest job gain over the month took place in the services industry (150,000), with sizable increases in business and health services. There were also substantial pickups in retail trade (75,000) and finance, insurance, and real estate (20,000) and a modest gain in wholesale trade. Altogether, employment rose by 270,000 in the service-producing sector.

In contrast, employment in the goods-producing sector declined by 80,000. Mining continued its recent slide with a reduction of 30,000, most of it in oil and gas extraction. At 900,000 in March, mining jobs were at their lowest level since June 1978. Manufacturing employment edged down by 40,000 over the month, with nearly all of the decline resulting from small but widespread decreases in the durable goods industries. Employment in the construction industry, at 4.9 million in March, was little changed over the month, after allowance is made for the normal seasonal increase in March construction activity.

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Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged up 0.1 hour in March, as did weekly and overtime hours in manufacturing. Each of these key weekly hours figures had declined sharply in February.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls rose 0.3 percent in March to 118.9 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment, returning to about the January figure. The index was 2.7 percent above the year-earlier level. The mining index, at 99.9 in March, was down by 4.4 percent over the month, while the manufacturing index was unchanged at 94.1.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose 0.3 percent in March, and weekly earnings were up 0.6 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings were unchanged at $8.74, and average weekly earnings were up $2.62 to $304.15. Over the past year, hourly earnings rose 22 cents and weekly earnings $5.95.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 168.8 (1977=100) in March, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.3 percent from February. For the 12 months ended in March, the increase was 2.7 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI decreased 0.3 percent during the 12-month period ended in February.

# # #

WEEK OF APRIL 14, 1986

BLACK DAY CARE CENTER DIRECTOR DISCUSSES 'MONTH OF THE CHILD' OBSERVANCE

WASHINGTON -- As Celia Boykin peers through an observation window in the day care center at the U.S. Department of Labor's headquarters here, she waves at the two-year olds who are at play and admits that each child makes her job interesting "because they are so unique."

Boykin is the director of the department's day care center, which has a total of 90 children enrolled.

"We educate young children here," Boykin said. "We are not a babysitting service. Our staff is trained to understand the developmental needs of children and thereby offer them appropriate activities for the particular age, whereby the children can be challenged in areas that increase basic learning and social skills."

Boykin and her staff are recognized by the National Association for the Education of Young Children, which is observing the "Month of the Young Child" this month.

In addition to the month long observance, day care centers across the country are holding special week long observances called "The Week of the Young Child." The Labor Department's center was to mark that observance April 7-11 with a special reception, open house, an exhibit of the children's art and the releasing of over two thousand balloons to mark the week's observance.

Boykin explains that the entire observance "is primarily a time to focus on the needs of young children and the importance of early childhood education."

She noted that the observance is also a time to educate the public about the changing role of day care.

The Labor Department's center is not unique. Perhaps a dozen federal departments and agencies have day care centers but the Labor Department's center is one of the oldest, having started in 1968, initially as a demonstration project.

The department donates the office space and provides maintenance but the center is otherwise run solely by a parents' association, and parents pay the other costs.

Boykin admits that her job has its challenges, the major ones being "to continue to promote a quality educational program, seeing that each child is being challenged maximally and seeing that parents are learning parenting skills as they work with us in providing education for their children."

Boykin is excited about what she does. As she walks through the center the children run to greet her and share hugs and kisses with her.

"How can you call this work?" Boykin asks. "I call them my fan club. If I get up in the morning and I don't feel well, as soon as I walk through the door I feel their excitement and I'm rejuvenated."

(more)

Boykin has been director of the center since August 1985. Prior to that she taught in the public schools of the District of Colubmia.

She is a graduate of Virginia State College and has studied at the University of Dijon in France, through Georgetown University. She has a master's degree in preschool administration from Trinity College, Washington, D.C.

Boykin has been a lecturer in early childhood education at the University of the District of Columbia and Trinity College here.

She is a member of the Washington Association for the Education of Young Children and the Washington Child Development Council.

She is married and has three children.

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Week of April 14, 1986

BLACKS WITH VIETNAM THEATER SERVICE HAVE HIGHEST JOBLESS RATE

WASHINGTON -- The jobless rate among blacks who served in the Vietnam theater was 14.1 percent in April 1985, according to a new survey of the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The jobless rate for black veterans was higher than that for whites (5.4 percent) or Hispanics (6.3 percent) who served in the Vietnam theater.

The "Vietnam theater" status applies to veterans who served in Vietnam, Laos or Cambodia or in the waters in or around these countries, or flew missions over these areas between August 1964 and April 1975.

Nationally, the unemployment rate for all veterans was 5.5 percent in April 1985, according to the BLS report.

The rate for those who served during the Vietnam era was slightly higher (6 percent), with those serving in Southeast Asia, at 6.7 percent, having a higher jobless rate than other Vietnam-era veterans (5.4 percent).

This relationship held regardless of age and race. Two-thirds of all Vietnam-era veterans are in the 35-44 year age group; those who served in the Vietnam theater had a jobless rate of 6.3 percent, compared with 4.6 percent for other Vietnam-era veterans.

more

BLACK NEWS DIGEST - 4/14/86
VETERANS - P. 2

Table   Employment status of men 18 years and over by race, Hispanic origin, and veteran status, April 1985, not seasonally adjusted

(Numbers in thousands)

Race, Hispanic origin, and veteran status	Civilian noninstitutional population	Civilian labor force					Not in labor force
		Total	Percent of population	Employed	Unemployed		
					Number	Percent of labor force	
WHITE							
Total, 18 years and over	70,132	54,554	77.8	51,364	3,191	5.8	15,578
Veterans	23,664	17,705	74.8	16,860	846	4.8	5,959
War veterans	19,623	13,879	70.7	13,258	620	4.5	5,745
Vietnam era	7,084	6,660	94.0	6,326	335	5.0	424
Vietnam theater	3,193	2,947	92.3	2,786	161	5.4	246
Other Vietnam era	3,892	3,714	95.4	3,539	174	4.7	178
Other war veterans	12,539	7,218	57.6	6,933	285	4.0	5,321
Other service veterans	4,041	3,827	94.7	3,601	225	5.9	214
Nonveterans	46,468	36,849	79.3	34,504	2,345	6.4	9,619
BLACK							
Total, 18 years and over	8,263	6,024	72.9	5,102	923	15.3	2,239
Veterans	2,163	1,580	73.0	1,377	204	12.9	583
War veterans	1,721	1,183	68.7	1,033	149	12.6	538
Vietnam era	724	678	93.6	588	90	13.3	46
Vietnam theater	411	379	92.2	325	54	14.1	32
Other Vietnam era	312	299	95.8	263	36	12.1	13
Other war veterans	998	506	50.7	446	59	11.7	492
Other service veterans	442	397	89.8	343	55	13.8	45
Nonveterans	6,100	4,444	72.9	3,725	719	16.2	1,656
HISPANIC ORIGIN							
Total, 18 years and over	5,381	4,438	82.5	4,024	414	9.3	943
Veterans	806	679	84.2	636	43	6.4	127
War veterans	620	505	81.5	470	35	6.9	117
Vietnam era	356	341	95.8	312	29	8.6	15
Vietnam theater	161	150	93.2	140	9	6.3	11
Other Vietnam era	195	192	98.5	172	20	10.4	4
Other war veterans	264	163	61.7	158	5	3.2	101
Other service veterans	185	174	94.1	166	7	4.0	10
Nonveterans	4,575	3,759	82.2	3,388	371	9.9	816

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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Week of April 14, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women with children under 18 years of age are working or seeking work, including more than half (52 percent) of those with children younger than 6, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

Although the nation's 50 million working women represent 44 percent of the total labor force, in 1984 they accounted for 16 percent of all physicians and lawyers and 6 percent of engineers, 5 percent of machinists, 3 percent of mechanics and repairers, and 1 percent of plumbers, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

Although progress is being made in moving women into jobs once virtually closed to them, the term "women's work" is not yet outdated. The top 10 jobs for women are secretary, cashier, bookkeeper, registered nurse, waitress, elementary school teacher, nursing aide, sales worker, sales supervisor/proprietor and typist, almost all relatively low paying jobs, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

4/21/86

blacknewsdigest

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from the
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Week of April 21, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of April 21, 1986

TWO BLACK WOMEN HONORED AS LABOR DEPARTMENT OBSERVES FEDERAL WOMEN´S WEEK

WASHINGTON — Two black women employees of the U.S. Department of Labor received awards for personal career achievement at the department´s 13th annual Federal Women´s Week Awards Breakfast here.

Pearline E. Carter, personnel officer for the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS), and Vivian J. Herbert, a program analyst with the Office of the Inspector General (OIG), were recognized for outstanding performance and personal career achievement.

Carter began her federal career as a clerk for the Department of theArmy and later advanced to more responsible positions. She began working with the BLS as a classifier and advanced to her present position.

Carter has a bachelor´s degree in business administration from Johns Hopkins University and a master´s degree from George Washington University in Washington, D.C.

In addition, she has completed requirements for a doctorate in organizational development from Pepperdine University in Los Angeles.

Carter is a member of the NAACP, the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women and the National Asssociation of Blacks Within Government and has served on the Business League of Baltimore.

Herbert, a program analyst with the Office of Resource Management and Legislative Assessment (OIG), was recognized for her career progression from the secretarial to the professional level.

She was also recognized for being a role model for women who want to move out of the secretarial field and into professional occupations.

Herbert began her career with the Labor Department as a secretary. After carefully mapping her career plans, she decided that she wanted to become a professional. As a result, she took a downgrade in order to qualify for and participate in a upward mobility program. She was accepted into that program which helped her to reach her current professional level.

Herbert has attended Bowie State College in Bowie, Md., and the University of Maryland. She is also active in community activities.

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Week of April 21, 1986

BLACK BUSINESS OWNER DISCUSSES RISK TAKING FOR CAREER GROWTH

WASHINGTON -- Risk taking is a matter of "betting on yourself and influencing the outcome," according to Jacqueline E. Flowers, president of a Washington-based minority owned management consulting firm.

Flowers conducted a seminar, "Risk-taking for Career Growth," during the U.S. Department of Labor's observance of Federal Women's Week here.

Flowers told her audience, consisting mostly of black female employees from the department, that there are basically two levels involved in risk-taking. The first level involves the more adventurous types of risks, whereas the second level involves risks that are more subtle and that are rarely dramatic.

Flowers explained that risk-taking for career growth purposes often involves a certain element of fear, but rather than ignoring the fear it should be dealt with in a positive sense.

Flowers also explained that black women, and others who are considering career changes that may be viewed as risky, must first set a goal and be aware of the loss that might be involved. She noted that when taking a career risk it is important to act decisively, to be realistic, to ask questions, to know your limits, to list everything that can go wrong, to be serious and to do your best.

"Risk-taking is not about doing dangerous or hazardous things," Flowers said.

"But when your career or future is involved, you need to do some soul-searching to see where you are, where it is you want to be, and analyze the changes and improvements you can make in yourself," she said.

Flowers continued by explaining some of the different types of career-risks, including those which are done for economic and interpersonal reasons.

"Life is a risk," Flowers said. "There are no guarantees. There are no such things as security. And there is especially no such thing as job security.

"The real security lies within one's self," she said.

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Week of April 21, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--MARCH 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell 1.1 percent seasonally adjusted from February to March, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had fallen a record 1.6 percent in February.

In the first 3 months of 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index dropped at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 12.4 percent, the largest decline for any 3-month period since this index was first calculated in 1947. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods declined 1.2 percent in March, almost as much as the 1.4 percent decrease in the preceding month. Crude material prices moved down 2.8 percent, following decreases of 1.4 and 5.0 percent in January and February. Price indexes for intermediate and crude goods also dropped at double-digit rates during the first quarter of 1986.

Sharply lower energy prices continued, as in February, to be the dominant and pervasive influence in March. Price indexes for finished, intermediate, and crude energy goods each dropped more than they had a month earlier. After falling broadly in February, however, food prices rose at the finished goods level and declined considerably less than a month before at the other stages of processing. Prices for some finished goods other than foods and energy increased moderately.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved down 1.4 percent in March to 288.1 (1967=100). Over the year from March 1985 to March 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index declined 1.4 percent. During the same period, finished energy goods dropped 20.5 percent, consumer food prices edged down 0.5 percent, the index for consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.2 percent, and capital equipment prices advanced 1.7 percent. The index for intermediate goods dropped 2.9 percent during the 12 months ended in March 1986, and crude material prices were 10.1 percent lower than they had been a year earlier.

# # #

WEEK OF APRIL 21, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The first federal activity to promote fair employment practices was the Fair Employment Practice Commission in 1941, which sought to eliminate discrimination in hiring in the defense industry, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1869, the first national black labor organization was formed, the Colored National Labor Union, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first federal bureau to attempt to ease labor-related racial tensions caused by blacks leaving the South was the Division of Negro Economics, in the Department of Labor in 1918, according to Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The first state legislation prohibiting discrimination in employment on the basis of race, creed or color was the Ives-Quinn Act in New York in 1945, according to "Labor Firsts in America," a publication of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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4/28/86

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WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF BLACK, OTHER FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.2 MILLION TO AID BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

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Week of April 28, 1986

EMPLOYMENT AND EARNINGS CHARACTERISTICS OF BLACK, OTHER FAMILIES: FIRST QUARTER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Black families accounted for almost one-fourth of the nearly 700,000 increase in the number of families with employed members in the first quarter of 1986, compared with a year earlier, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) reported.

Other first quarter data indicate that black and Hispanic families continued to be more likely to have someone unemployed than white families, however, BLS said.

The unemployment situation in families in general showed little change.

About 50.5 million families, 80 percent of the total, had at least one member who was employed. The proportion was somewhat lower--73 percent--for black families. Over the past two years, however, the number of black families with employed members has increased almost twice as fast as the overall number of black families.

Median wage and salary earnings of families were $531 a week in the first quarter. The median for white families ($554) was nearly 50 percent greater than that of blacks ($377) and almost 40 percent higher than the median for Hispanic families ($401).

Other first quarter highlights are as follows:

--The proportion of married-couple families in which both spouses were employed continued its long-term rise. In the first quarter, both spouses were employed in 45 percent of these families.

--There was little change over the year in both the number and Proportion of families with unemployed members. About 6.5 million or 10 percent of all families had at least one member who was looking for a job, but more than two-thirds of these also contained someone who was employed.

--Median wage and salary earnings of families were $531 a week in the first quarter. The median for white families was nearly 50 percent greater than that of blacks and almost 40 percent higher than the median for Hispanic families. This is partly because a greater proportion of white families contained two or more earners.

--Median earnings for families with both employed and unemployed members were $332 a week. However, earnings continued to vary by family type and which member was unemployed. Among married-couple families, the median was $230 a week where the husband was unemployed, compared with $625 for families where the only unemployed member was a son, daughter, or other relative(s). Among families maintained by women, median weekly earnings were $188 when the woman herself was unemployed and $294 when the unemployed person was another family member.

# # #

Week of April 28, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.2 MILLION TO AID BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $1,158,526 in grants to black and other dislocated workers in Illinois, Indiana, Montana and Ohio, who are unemployed due to plant closings and mass layoffs.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

"Through JTPA, there are a number of resources we can tap to assist workers who have lost their jobs due to plant closings and other factors," Secretary Brock stated. "We intend to do all we can to help them re-enter the job market."

The Illinois Fiatallis Company Project will receive $155,897 to assist up to 154 dislocated Fiatallis workers in Springfield. Workers will receive on-the-job and classroom training, and job search and placement assistance.

The Southwest Indiana Private Industry Council will receive $500,000 to assist up to 500 workers laid off from the Zenith Electronic Corporation in Southwest Indiana. The project provides a two-week skill assessment and job search seminar, and classroom and on-the-job training.

Montana's Project Challenge: Work Again will receive $70,000 to assist up to 100 workers dislocated by the closure of the Livingston facility of the Burlington Northern Railroad. The project will provide self-directed job search with some relocation assistance and classroom and on-the-job training as needed.

The Community Action Organization of Scioto County, Inc., will receive an additional $432,629 to supplement original funding by the Department of Labor. The project will assist up to 200 workers affected by the Goodyear Gas Centrifuge/Atomic Corporation plant closure in Piketon, Ohio. It is a joint U.S. Department of Labor/U.S. Department of Energy project. Those workers in Scioto, Pike, Ross, Brown, Highland, Adams, Jackson and Lawrence counties are eligible for assistance, and will receive job search assistance through job clubs, classroom and on-the-job training and relocation assistance.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

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WEEK OF APRIL 28, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women with children under 18 years of age are working or seeking work, including more than half (52 percent) of those with children younger than 6, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

Although the nation's 50 million working women represent 44 percent of the total labor force, in 1984 they accounted for 16 percent of all physicians and lawyers and 6 percent of engineers, 5 percent of machinists, 3 percent of mechanics and repairers, and 1 percent of plumbers, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S Department of Labor.

# # #

Although progress is being made in moving women into jobs once virtually closed to them, the term "women's work" is not yet outdated. The top 10 jobs for women are secretary, cashier, bookkeeper, registered nurse, waitress, elementary school teacher, nursing aide, sales worker, sales supervisor/proprietor and typist, almost all relatively low paying jobs, according to "Meeting the Challenges of the 80s," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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5/5/86

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Week of May 5, 1986

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Week of May 5, 1986

ADDRESSING PROBLEMS OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT A 'HIGH PRIORITY,' SAYS SEMERAD

WASHINGTON -- Dealing with the serious problems of youth unemployment is one of Secretary of Labor William E. Brock's highest priorities, and the U.S. Labor Department is moving on a number of fronts to address the issue, a high-ranking Labor Department official said.

Roger D. Semerad, assistant secretary of labor for employment and training, in prepared remarks before the House Subcommittee on Employment Opportunities, said that unemployment is a "particular problem" for a hard core of poor, minority school dropouts.

"The causes of the youth unemployment problem are varied," Semerad added, "but being poor, minority or a dropout puts you in a different category and makes you susceptible to persistent, long-term joblessness."

Semerad said the nation could not allow high youth unemployment to continue, warning it could result in the creation of a permanent social underclass, an even greater drain on public expenditures, and a "tragic loss of human potential."

He added: "I do not believe that as a society we can afford to let this happen," listing actions the department is taking to address high youth unemployment:

-- working with other federal agencies to develop a range of cooperative ventures for unemployed youth;

-- identifying practical models for attacking unemployment and encouraging employment and training managers to implement these models;

-- consulting youth experts from around the country about youth unemployment and solutions to the problem;

-- proposing to target the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program to areas with concentrations of disadvantaged youth;

-- emphasizing remedial education and literacy training in the summer program for those who do not meet minimum standards.

Semerad said that, of the $3.7 billion available for the Job Training and Partnership Act (JTPA), $3 of every $5 spent are devoted to youth.

Programs serving disadvantaged youth include title II-A, which includes a requirement that 40 percent of each Service Delivery Area's funds be spent on youth; the Summer Youth Employment and Training Program, the Job Corps, the Native American and Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Program, and pilot and demonstration programs focusing on youth, Semerad said

# # #

Week of May 5, 1986

BLACK, OTHER SHOEWORKERS IN NEW YORK QUALIFY FOR FEDERAL JOB AID

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that up to 1,020 shoeworkers, including blacks, at three footwear facilities in New York have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

Certified workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related assistance under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Workers at Cosmos Footwear Corporation, New York, New York, its sales division, Charter Footwear Corporation, New York, New York, and its manufacturing division, Allegro Shoe Corporation, Little Falls, New York were engaged in employment related to the production of women's footwear.

U.S. imports of women's and misses' nonrubber footwear increased substantially in 1984 and again in 1985. Workers who were totally or partially separated from their jobs at either of these facilities on or before the following dates are eligible for benefits:

PLANT LOCATION	IMPACT DATE
Cosmos Footwear Corp., New York, N.Y. -- 5 workers	Nov. 6, 1984
Charter Footwear Corp., New York, N.Y. -- 5 workers	Nov. 6, 1984
Allegro Shoe Corp., Little Falls, N.Y.-- 1,010 workers	Nov. 12, 1984

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducted a fact-finding investigation which provided the basis for the certifications.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in the state of New York. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of benefits minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may be eligible for an additional 26 weeks of benefits.

The employment security agency in New York will administer assistance through local offices.

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Week of May 5, 1986

PRODUCTIVITY AND COSTS: FIRST QUARTER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported preliminary productivity data--as measured by output per hour of all persons--for the first quarter of 1986. The seasonally-adjusted annual rates of productivity change in the first quarter were:

2.3 percent in the business sector,
3.4 percent in the nonfarm business sector,
2.4 percent in manufacturing,
2.0 percent in durable goods manufacturing, and
3.0 percent in nondurable goods manufacturing.

Productivity rose in all sectors in the first quarter, and combined with moderate gains in hourly compensation, contributed to declining unit labor costs.

# # #

Week of May 5, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--March 1986

NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics currently is completing a major revision of the Consumer Price Index. Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1987 on February 27, 1987, the Bureau will introduce revised versions of the current CPI's both for All Urban Consumers and for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. The revised CPI's will reflect more current population and spending patterns and numerous technical enhancements. See page 5 for further details.

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.5 percent before seasonal adjustment in March to a level of 326.0 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. Over the year, the CPI-U increased 2.3 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.6 percent in March prior to seasonal adjustment. The March 1986 CPI-W level of 321.4 (1967=100) was 1.9 percent higher than the index in March 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U declined 0.4 percent in March. This drop was the same as in February. Energy prices continued to decline in March--down 6.5 percent--and were only partially offset by a 0.3 percent increase, on average, for other components of the CPI.

During the first 3 months of 1986, the CPI-U fell 0.5 percent, a 1.9 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR), the largest decrease for any 3-month period since that ended in October 1954. Reflecting the sharp drop in crude oil prices, energy commodities--fuel oil, coal, bottled gas, and motor fuels-- declined 16.9 percent in the first quarter, a negative 52.3 percent annual rate. Food prices also declined in the first quarter. Shelter costs continued to advance at an annual rate of over 5 percent. The index for all items excluding food, shelter, and energy rose somewhat more slowly than during 1985. The first quarter moderation among these other items has occurred primarily in the goods sector, as prices in the service sector, principally medical costs, have accelerated. The annual rates for these groups during the last several years and the first quarter of this year are shown below.

Annual percent changes

	12 months ended				SAAR 3-months ended
	Dec 1982	Dec 1983	Dec 1984	Dec 1985	Mar 1986
All Items	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.8	-1.9
Food	3.1	2.6	3.8	2.7	-1.4
Energy	1.3	-.5	.2	1.8	-34.2
Energy Commodities	-5.0	-3.2	-1.9	3.4	-52.3
Energy Services	14.1	4.1	3.4	-0.5	1.6
Shelter	2.4	4.7	5.2	6.0	5.6
All other items	6.1	5.0	4.4	3.7	3.4
Other Commodities	5.5	5.0	3.1	2.2	.5
Other Services	7.3	4.9	6.0	5.4	6.9

more

The transportation component, reflecting another sharp drop in prices for motor fuels, declined 2.8 percent in March, after registering a 1.4 percent decrease in February. The gasoline price index declined a record 12.0 percent in March and receded to its level of late 1979. This represents a 26.9 percent drop from its peak level of March 1981. Used car prices--down 0.7 percent in March--declined for the second consecutive month and were 4.9 percent below their level a year ago. A decrease in the index for public transportation, reflecting a decline in airline fares, also contributed to the decrease in transportation costs. Partially offsetting these declines were small increases in the indexes for new cars and automobile maintenance and repairs--both up 0.2 percent--and a sharp increase in the cost of automobile insurance. Automobile insurance costs rose 1.3 percent in March and were 13.8 percent above their level a year earlier.

The housing index increased 0.2 percent in March, following a decline of 0.1 percent in February. All major components contributed to the turnaround; shelter costs accelerated, prices for household furnishings and operations turned upward, and the index for fuels and utilities registered a smaller, but still substantial decline than in February. The shelter component advanced 0.6 percent in March, following increases of 0.4 percent in each of the preceding 3 months. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.5 percent, and homeowners' costs increased 0.9 percent, while maintenance and repair costs declined 3.2 percent. The turnaround in the index for household furnishings and operations was due to a return from sale price levels to moderately higher regular prices for housefurnishings. Housekeeping supplies continued to decline in March. The index for fuel and other utilities declined 1.0 percent in March. Fuel oil prices declined 6.5 percent after registering a record 11.5 percent drop in February and were 27 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Among other fuels, charges for electricity and natural gas declined 0.5 and 0.7 percent, respectively.

The food and beverage component registered a 0.1 percent increase in March, after declining 0.6 percent in February. All three major groups--food at home, food away from home, and alcoholic beverages--contributed to the turnaround. Grocery store food prices were unchanged in March, following a 1.0 percent drop in the preceding month. Declines in the indexes for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs and dairy products offset small increases in the other major grocery store food groups. Beef, pork, and poultry prices all declined in March. During the past 12 months, beef and pork prices have declined 1.5 and 1.2 percent, respectively, while poultry prices have increased 0.4 percent. Charges for restaurant meals increased 0.4 percent in March. Prices for alcoholic beverages were unchanged in March, following a decline in February.

The advance of 1.0 percent in March was the largest monthly increase in the medical care component since July 1982. Medical care services increased 1.1 percent with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 1.1 and 1.2 percent, respectively. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies-- rose 0.6 percent in March.

The index for apparel and upkeep -- down 0.1 percent in March -- declined for the third consecutive month. Clothing prices, reflecting the sales promotions on springwear, increased less than their usual seasonal pattern. Charges for apparel services rose 0.2 percent in March.

The entertainment component, largely reflecting a decrease in prices for sporting goods and equipment, declined 0.1 percent in March, following a 0.2 percent increase in February. The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in March.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers declined 0.6 percent in March.

# # #

Week of May 5, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN MARCH 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 1.2 percent from February to March after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This increase stemmed from a 0.3 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent increase in average weekly hours, and a 0.6 percent decrease in the Consumer Price Index, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 2.0 percent between March of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.9 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings were unchanged. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $304.15 in March 1986, compared with $298.20 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased by 0.8 percent from February to March. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI decreased by 0.7 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

WEEK OF MAY 5, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Hispanic mothers are less likely to be in the labor force than most other mothers, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About half (50.6 percent) of Hispanic mothers of children under 18 years of age were in the labor force in March 1985, compared with 62.1 percent for all mothers, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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There were 5.7 million Hispanic women in the United States in 1984, and women of Mexican ancestry represented the largest subgroup, numbering 3.2 million, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Week of May 12, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of May 12, 1986

UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR BLACKS ABOUT UNCHANGED IN APRIL

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was 14.8 percent in April; it was 14.7 percent a month earlier, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The jobless rate for black adult men was unchanged over the month at 12.6 percent. The unemployment rate for black adult women edged up over the month from 12.2 to 12.5 percent.

The unemployment rate for black youth was 42.6 percent in April; it was 43.7 percent a month earlier.

The number of jobs on nonfarm payrolls rose in April, and unemployment was about unchanged, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported The overall unemployment rate was 7.0 percent, and the civilian worker rate was 7.1 percent.

Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the survey of business establishments--rose by about 200,000 to reach the 100-million mark in April. Despite weakness in mining and manufacturing, almost 1 million jobs have been added during the first 4 months of 1986. Civilian employment--as measured by the survey of households--was little changed over the month.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons--8.3 million, seasonally adjusted--was virtually unchanged in April, as was the civilian worker unemployment rate of 7.1 percent. There were some minor offsets among the major age-sex groups, however, as the unemployment rate of teenagers rose (to 19.6 percent), while that for adults dropped slightly. Jobless rates for whites (6.1 percent), and Hispanics (10.4 percent) were all about the same as in the previous month.

Among those unemployed in April, there was a decline in the number of job losers, particularly those on layoff, but an increase in the number of job leavers. The mean and median duration of unemployment were about unchanged at 6.5 and 14.3 weeks, respectively.

The number of persons working part time for economic reasons--often referred to as the partially unemployed--rose by nearly 400,000 to 5.9 million. This increase was concentrated among persons who usually work full time but had their hours cut as a result of slack work.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

At 108.9 million, seasonally adjusted, civilian employment was virtually unchanged in April, and there were no substantive over-the-month changes among the major age, sex, race, and ethnic groups. The civilian employment-population ratio--the proportion of the civilian population with

more

jobs--was 60.4 percent, the same as in the previous 2 months. Over the year, civilian employment rose by 1.7 million, after adjustment for the population revisions introduced in January.

The civilian labor force held steady at 117.2 million, after seasonal adjustment. In the past year, the civilian labor force has also grown by about 1.7 million (again, after adjustment for population revisions). Adult women accounted for nearly three-fifths of the increase. Because the teenage population was declining between 1978 and 1985, their teenage labor force also decreased throughout most of that period. Over the past year, however, both the teenage population and labor force levels have stabilized.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls rose by 205,000 in April to 100 million, after seasonal adjustment, continuing the recent pattern of modest job growth. The job count was 2.9 million above its year-earlier level. Construction and services paced the April job expansion.

In the service-producing sector, the services industry continued its strong job expansion, increasing by 85,000. There was also a gain of 45,000 in finance, insurance, and real estate, in part reflecting the boom in mortgage financing brought on by falling interest rates. Wholesale trade posted an increase of 25,000, while retail trade employment rose about in line with the usual seasonal expectation for April and thus was little changed after seasonal adjustment. Employment in government and transportation and public utilities was unchanged. Overall, employment in the sector rose by 185,000.

In the goods-producing sector, employment in the construction industry, at nearly 5 million in April, increased by 85,000 over the month, after adjustment for seasonality. This increase reflects the continued strength in the housing industry and especially dry weather during the April survey period.

In marked contrast, the oil and gas extraction component of the mining industry continued to trend downward, dropping by 35,000 in April. This industry has lost 1 out of 8 of its jobs in the last 3 months. Manufacturing employment continued to wane, edging down by 25,000 over the month, the third consecutive decline. There were small but widespread declines among many of the individual manufacturing industries.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

The average workweek of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls remained at 35.0 hours in April, after seasonal adjustment. Weekly hours in manufacturing edged down 0.1 hour to 40.6 hours, while factory overtime increased 0.1 hour to 3.5 hours.

more

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls was about unchanged at 119.1 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The mining index declined sharply for the third straight month, falling by 4.0 percent in April to 96.6.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly and weekly earnings were unchanged in April, both on an actual and seasonally adjusted basis. Average hourly earnings were $8.74, not seasonally adjusted, and average weekly earnings were $304.15. Over the past year, hourly earnings rose 20 cents and weekly earnings $6.10.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 168.8 (1977=100) in April, seasonally adjusted, unchanged from March. For the 12 months ended in April, the increase was 2.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 0.7 percent during the 12-months ended in March.

# # #

Week of May 12, 1986

OSHA RECOGNIZES 15 BLACK EMPLOYEES AT ANNIVERSARY OBSERVANCE

WASHINGTON -- Fifteen black employees were recognized for their service to the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) during the agency's observance of its 15th anniversary here.

All of the employees have been with OSHA since it was formally created April 28, 1981.

Secretary of Labor William E. Brock and OSHA's acting director, Patrick Tyson, presented certificates of appreciation recognizing the employees' service to the agency.

Noting the agency had formerly been criticized for nitpicking, Brock told employees, "You've developed a reputation for fairness, for cooperation, for seeing both sides of a problem and seeking a good solution."

"Your commitment and dedication to safety and health is one of the strengths of this department," Brock said. Brock also said he expects the agency to focus on establishing priorities for developing safety and health standards and on speeding up the standard setting process in the future.

The 15 employees are: Corliss Alford, Theresa B. Berry, Bonnie R. Boone, Carole Brauner, Claudia A. Bridgett, Margaret C. Gray, Louellen Jennings, Vernette O. Johnson, Sandra L. Jones, Lloyd Keeling, Rencie V. McGlown, Tyrone Neal, Mary D. Pierce, Lionel M. Rogers and Mildred A. Saunders.

# # #

Week of May 12, 1986

BLACK WOMAN SUPERVISES IN MALE-DOMINATED FIELD

WASHINGTON -- "When you're a black woman who gives the orders in a typically male-dominated field, you're bound to encounter some problems," said Audrey C. Johnson, an employee with the U.S. Department of Labor here.

Johnson is a space management specialist for the department. She is responsible for supervising office moves and renovations, preparing renovation layouts and floor plans, working with contractors and craftsmen, preparing cost estimates and handling interior design projects.

"I've encountered problems on several jobs, particularly when I started out," Johnson said. "The problems were not so much because I was a woman, but because I was a black woman, and I was giving the orders.

"There have also been times when a contractor has questioned my judgment, and I realized it had nothing to do with my ability to manage or supervise the project," Johnson said.

During those times, Johnson said she would let the contractor know that the job would be done her way or not at all, "and it worked."

Johnson didn't plan on a career in space management. She began her federal career in 1962 with the U.S. Postal Service as a clerk-typist. Her career goal at that time was to be a secretary.

Johnson joined the Labor Department in 1966 as a secretary in the space management division. In 1975, management placed her in the Upward Mobility Program as a space management trainee. In time, through specialized training and hard work, she became a space management specialist.

"I laugh when I think of some of the things I've had to do in order to get a job done," Johnson recalled. "I have spackled and sanded walls for painting, pulled up old carpet, hung pictures and moved and set up furniture by myself.

"But I like my job because it's a challenge," she said. "It's a challenge in the sense that I have to deal with different types of people, personalities and work assignments. And it's a challenge because you have to pay particular attention to so many details in order to get the job done correctly."

Johnson feels that other women, especially black women, should pursue careers in non-traditional fields. The work is demanding but worth it, she said.

# # #

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The law creating the U.S. Department of Labor was signed by President William Howard Taft on March 4, 1913, according to a publication, "The Origin of the U.S. Department of Labor."

# # #

Although the U.S. Department of Labor was not created as a seperate Cabinet-level agency until 1913, the movement for establishing it began after the Civil War when William Sylvis, the most important labor leader of his day, advocated such a move.

# # #

In 1869, Massachusetts pioneered by creating the first bureau of labor statistics in the world, according to "The Origin of the U.S. Department of Labor," available from the department's Office of Information and Public Affiars in Washington, D.C.

# # #

The predecessor to the U.S. Department of Labor on the federal level was the Bureau of Labor, in the Department of Interior, created in 1884, according to "The Origin of the U.S. Department of Labor," an historical sketch available from the department.

# # #

Although the U.S. Department of Labor did not become a separate Cabinet-level agency until 1913, a bill signed by President Theodore Roosevelt created the Department of Commerce and Labor in 1903.

# # #

5/19/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of May 19, 1986

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MOVE UP IN FIRST QUARTER 1986

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Week of May 19, 1986

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS OF BLACKS MOVE UP IN FIRST QUARTER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Median weekly earnings of black full-time wage and salary workers were $288 in the first quarter of 1986, a $16 increase over the year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

In contrast, median weekly earnings of white workers ($366) continued to outpace those of blacks and Hispanics ($269).

BLS reported that black women's median weekly earnings during the three-month period ($263) were 91 percent of those of white women ($290). Hispanic women earned less ($229) than black or white women, BLS reported.

The median earnings for black men ($312) were 72 percent of that for white men ($434). There was little difference between the earnings of black and Hispanic men.

Median weekly earnings of the nation's 76.7 million wage and salary workers were $354 in the first quarter of 1986, up 5.4 percent from a year earlier.

Earnings continued to increase faster than consumer prices (as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers), which rose by 3.1 percent between the first quarters of 1985 and 1986.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked how much each wage and salary worker usually earns per week. Other highlights of the first quarter data are:

--Median weekly earnings for men peaked at about $500 for the age groups 35-44 and 45-54 years. Median earnings for women were highest for those in the 35 to 44 year group -- $312. (See table 2.)

--Among the major occupational groups, workers in executive, administrative, and managerial occupations reported the highest median weekly earnings ($510), followed by professional specialty workers ($495). Among women, however, those in professional jobs and the small number employed as mechanics and repairers reported higher median earnings than those in the managerial category. Lowest earnings were reported for workers in farming, forestry, and fishing ($221) and in service occupations

-more-

Table 1. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings			
	I 1985	I 1986	In current dollars		In constant (1977) dollars	
			I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
SEX AND AGE						
Total, 16 years and over	74,905	76,693	$336	$354	$192	$196
Men, 16 years and over	44,081	45,086	404	419	231	232
16 to 24 years	6,174	6,183	239	245	137	136
25 years and over	37,906	38,904	435	459	248	255
Women, 16 years and over	30,825	31,606	270	287	154	159
16 to 24 years	5,353	5,115	211	222	120	123
25 years and over	25,472	26,491	287	302	164	167
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP						
Husbands	30,007	30,124	444	471	254	261
Wives	16,042	16,747	277	293	159	163
Women who maintain families	4,330	4,454	270	289	154	160
Men who maintain families	1,251	1,416	404	382	231	212
Other persons in families:						
Men	5,515	5,616	237	245	135	136
Women	4,097	3,986	214	224	123	124
All other men 1/	7,308	7,919	379	395	217	219
All other women 1/	6,356	6,431	294	312	168	173
RACE, HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX						
White	64,739	66,118	347	366	198	203
Men	38,724	39,535	415	434	237	241
Women	26,016	26,583	274	290	157	161
Black	8,146	8,383	272	288	156	159
Men	4,234	4,305	305	312	174	173
Women	3,913	4,078	247	263	141	146
Hispanic origin	(2)	5,388	(2)	269	(2)	149
Men	(2)	3,471	(2)	295	(2)	163
Women	(2)	1,917	(2)	229	(2)	127

1/ The majority of these persons are living alone or with nonrelatives. Also included are persons in married-couple families where the husband or wife is in the Armed Forces and persons in unrelated subfamilies.

2/ Data on Hispanic wage and salary earners for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

-more-

Table 2. Median usual weekly earnings of full-time wage and salary workers by age, race, Hispanic origin, and sex, fourth quarter 1985 averages, not seasonally adjusted

Age, race, and Hispanic origin	Total		Men		Women	
	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings	Number of workers (in thousands)	Median weekly earnings
TOTAL						
16 years and over	76,693	$354	45,086	$419	31,606	$287
16 to 24 years	11,298	234	6,183	245	5,115	222
16 to 19 years	1,630	182	927	189	703	173
20 to 24 years	9,668	246	5,255	258	4,412	233
25 years and over	65,395	385	38,904	459	26,491	302
25 to 54 years	56,899	386	33,694	458	23,205	304
25 to 34 years	25,323	356	15,049	403	10,274	300
35 to 44 years	19,187	412	11,259	495	7,928	312
45 to 54 years	12,389	407	7,386	502	5,003	301
55 years and over	8,496	380	5,210	467	3,286	287
55 to 64 years	7,707	387	4,692	477	3,015	290
65 years and over	788	283	518	323	271	247
White						
16 years and over	66,118	366	39,535	434	26,583	290
16 to 24 years	9,982	239	5,464	251	4,518	224
25 years and over	56,136	396	34,071	476	22,065	306
25 to 54 years	48,645	397	29,456	474	19,189	309
55 years and over	7,490	391	4,615	483	2,876	291
Black						
16 years and over	8,383	288	4,305	312	4,078	263
16 to 24 years	1,111	201	602	202	509	200
25 years and over	7,272	303	3,703	338	3,569	274
25 to 54 years	6,456	305	3,234	341	3,222	277
55 years and over	816	287	469	318	348	230
Hispanic origin						
16 years and over	5,388	269	3,471	295	1,917	229
16 to 24 years	1,088	208	702	214	386	200
25 years and over	4,300	293	2,770	323	1,531	244
25 to 54 years	3,911	294	2,519	324	1,392	247
55 years and over	389	279	250	316	139	217

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

-more-

Table 3 **Median usual weekly earnings of part-time wage and salary workers by selected characteristics, quarterly averages, not seasonally adjusted**

Characteristic	Number of workers (in thousands)		Median weekly earnings	
	I 1985	I 1986	I 1985	I 1986
SEX AND AGE				
Total, 16 years and over	17,695	18,294	$90	$95
Men, 16 years and over	5,571	5,809	82	88
16 to 24 years	3,385	3,383	68	71
25 years and over	2,186	2,425	111	114
Women, 16 years and over	12,124	12,485	94	98
16 to 24 years	3,951	4,054	67	69
25 years and over	8,174	8,431	108	114
FAMILY RELATIONSHIP				
Husbands	1,465	1,515	111	117
Wives	6,405	6,548	110	115
Women who maintain families	937	989	101	110
Men who maintain families	83	114	(1)	139
Other persons in families:				
Men	3,170	3,168	66	70
Women	3,285	3,366	62	64
All other men 2/	852	1,011	110	107
All other women 2/	1,497	1,582	96	105
RACE , HISPANIC ORIGIN, AND SEX				
White	15,528	16,054	91	95
Men	4,787	4,965	82	87
Women	10,741	11,090	94	99
Black	1,674	1,736	86	93
Men	572	653	80	96
Women	1,101	1,084	89	92
Hispanic origin	(3)	989	(3)	96
Men	(3)	411	(3)	100
Women	(3)	578	(3)	93

1/ Data not shown where base is less than 100,000.

2/ The majority of these persons are living alone or with nonrelatives. Also included are persons in married-couple families where the husband or wife is in the Armed Forces and persons in unrelated subfamilies.

3/ Data on Hispanic wage and salary earners for 1985 are not available on a revised basis that reflects the adjustments to the population totals introduced in January 1986.

NOTE: Detail for the above race and Hispanic-origin groups will not sum to totals because data for the "other races" group are not presented and Hispanics are included in both the white and black population groups.

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Week of May 19, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.9 MILLION TO AID BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 5 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $1,853,800 in grants to black and other dislocated workers in Colorado, Indiana, Iowa, Montana and New York. The workers in Indiana, Iowa and New York are unemployed due to mass layoffs and plant shutdowns. In Colorado and Montana, farmers and ranchers have lost their land and family farms due to adverse economic conditions.

Funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide the dislocated workers with training and other supportive services to re-enter the work force.

"JTPA provides the resources to help those who find themselves in the midst of a changing economy," Secretary Brock stated. "We are committed to assisting them in their efforts to seek new opportunities."

The Colorado Department of Labor and Employment will receive $700,000 to assist up to 636 farmers and ranchers displaced from family farms throughout the state. The Displaced Farmer Project will provide classroom instruction, on-the-job training and correspondence courses, or training specifically directed to identified employers. Employability Development Plans will be prepared after counseling and testing. Those found job-ready will be enrolled in Job Search activities and direct placement.

The Indiana Interlocal Association will receive $350,000 to assist up to 175 Firestone Corporation workers displaced by mass layoffs. The areas affected include Marion, Madison, Grant, Cass, Fulton, Howard, Miami, Tipton, Wabash, Boone, Hamilton, Hancock, Hendricks, Johnson, Morgan and Shelby counties. Workers will receive basic education and General Equivalency Diploma (GED) classes to upgrade skills, counseling, on-the-job and classroom training, job search assistance, transportation, child care and minor medical services.

Iowa's Laborer's District Council Heavy Highway Training Fund will receive $253,800 to assist up to 260 unemployed construction workers. The Iowa Toxic and Hazardous Waste Employment and Training Program will develop a curriculum designed to train the laborers to handle, control, remove and dispose of toxic and hazardous waste.

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The Montana Farmers Union will receive $250,000 to assist up to 400 farmers and ranchers throughout the state who have lost or will lose their land due to adverse economic conditions. The project includes a program of counseling, job search assistance and limited on-the-job and classroom training.

The New York (Seneca County) Dislocated Worker Resource Center will receive $300,000 to assist up to 300 workers laid off from the Phillips ECG plant in Seneca Falls. The Finger Lakes, Cayuga, Cortland, and Thompkins Service Delivery Areas will operate a project designed to provide outreach, recruitment, assessment, job placement, follow-up services, relocation assistance, and other supportive services. Workers will also receive training opportunities in business, health transportation, construction and metal occupations. The areas affected include Seneca, Wayne, Ontario, Yates, Cayuga, Tompkins and Cortland counties.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous occupation or industry, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

###

Week of May 19, 1986

BLACK OSHA OFFICIAL EXPLAINS NEW HAZARD COMMUNICATION STANDARD

HATTIESBURG, Miss. -- "I'm from the federal government, and I'm here to help you."

While this statement is often used as a joke's punchline, it was recently used here in all seriousness by an official of the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA's Jackson, Miss. Area Director A. DeJean King Sr., one of the agency's top ranking black officials in the Southeast, made the statement at a seminar designed to explain the agency's new "Hazard Communication" standard to employers, union representatives and workers in the manufacturing industry.

The standard, aimed at assuring that workers are informed of the hazards connected with chemicals and other substances with which they work, requires employers in the manufacturing sector (SIC codes 20-39) to be in full compliance with the regulations by May 25, 1986. OSHA estimates that the new standard will cover more than 14 million workers in some 300,000 establishments throughout the country.

"We are talking about a standard that affects more firms, more supervisors and more workers than any standard implemented during OSHA's 15-year history," King told seminar attendees. "I am very serious when I say I'm here to help employers come into compliance."

During the seminar, which was co-sponsored by the University of Southern Mississippi, King explained that the new standard has a three-fold purpose of:

-- ensuring that chemicals and other substances are evaluated to determine their hazards;

-- requiring transmittal of information, through the use of container labels, to employers and employees, and

-- establishing uniform requirements nationally.

"This is an important new standard, and I'm responsible for seeing that our company is in compliance," said Nadine McNeer of Southern Metals Company of Mississippi, headquartered in Laurel. "The seminar was most beneficial in that it helped me understand what I need to do."

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An additional Mississippi seminar on the subject was held April 30 in Greenwood.

Further information on OSHA's standards and programs is available from area offices throughout the country. They are listed in telephone directories under U.S. Government, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Safety and Health Administration.

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WEEK OF MAY 19, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

There were 5.7 million Hispanic women in the United States in 1984, and women of Mexican ancestry represented the largest subgroup, numbering 3.2 million, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About 50 percent of all Hispanic women were in the labor force in 1984, a rate somewhat lower than the 54 percent rate for all women, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a fact sheet issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About half (50.6 percent) of Hispanic mothers of children under 18 years of age were in the labor force in March 1985, compared with 62.1 percent for all mothers, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Week of May 26, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACKS, OTHER PARTICIPATE IN NEW JERSEY REEMPLOYMENT PROJECT

BLACK WOMAN SEARCHING FOR NEW CHALLENGES

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--APRIL 1986

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Week of May 26, 1986

BLACKS, OTHERS PARTICIPATE IN NEW JERSEY REEMPLOYMENT PROJECT

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that the New Jersey Unemployment Insurance (UI) Reemployment Demonstration Project began enrolling participants on May 19, 1986. The project will enroll approximately 10,000 UI claimants, many who are black, over a one year period.

This project is designed to test UI's ability to identify future exhaustees early in the claims process and three types of reemployment assistance that are not now provided to recipients on a regular basis:

- o Job search assistance (JSA)
- o JSA plus training and relocation
- o JSA plus a cash bonus after reemployment

In addition, all participants will receive testing, assessment and counseling services.

"Changes in the labor market and an ever increasing need to better utilize our resources, have raised the question of whether roles other than the traditional one might be appropriate," Secretary Brock said. "I believe the best approach to finding more creative ways to speed a return to work of dislocated workers before they exhaust their UI benefits lies in carefully designed demonstration projects."

The services will be offered to randomly selected UI claimants who are served by ten New Jersey offices: Burlington, Butler, Bloomfield, Elizabeth, Hackensack, Jersey City, Newark, Paterson, Perth Amboy and Woodbury.

The project is being operated under a cooperative agreement between the U.S. Department of Labor and New Jersey Department of Labor. It has the cooperation of several New Jersey agencies, including the Unemployment Insurance (UI), Employment Service (ES) and Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs.

# # #

Week of May 26, 1986

BLACK WOMAN SEARCHING FOR NEW CHALLENGES

WASHINGTON -- Joyce Mitchell is an ambitious, energetic black woman who's constantly searching for new challenges on the job or in her volunteer duties as an equal employment opportunity (EEO) counselor at the U.S. Department of Labor here.

Mitchell said she never stops searching for opportunities that will enhance her professional development. "I'm on a constant lookout for new challenges on the job and in my work as an EEO counselor," she said.

Since becoming an EEO counselor in 1981, Mitchell admits that the challenges have been "extensive."

Mitchell works in the department's Office of the Solicitor and is the division secretary for the associate solicitor for civil rights.

Earlier this year, she received the Secretary of Labor's Equal Opportunity Award for her "outstanding" work in helping to resolve several EEO cases.

"I try very hard to resolve cases," Mitchell said, "I attempt to negotiate an informal settlement with involved parties on all assigned complaints."

She admits that many times her meetings with an employee are nothing more than a sounding board for individuals who want to release their frustrations.

"Then there are times when people just need suggestions and guidelines, because they are not informed about their rights or the procedures necessary to initiate a possible EEO complaint," Mitchell said.

In many cases, Mitchell finds that better communication between the employee and the manager is the answer to the problem.

For an EEO counselor, Mitchell said it's important to know the rules and regulations, and your limitations. "You cannot mislead the employee into believing that you are a Godsend," she said.

Mitchell said that EEO counseling does not always bring about the results the employee desires but "the (EEO) system works."

Mitchell began her federal career with the Labor Department in 1967, after graduating from high school.

She is currently enrolled in a paralegal program at the University of Maryland.

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Week of May 26, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--APRIL 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods declined 0.6 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis from March to April, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The April drop was the fourth consecutive substantial monthly decrease, but was considerably smaller than those of the 2 preceding months. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 1.0 percent in April, after declining even more in both February and March. Crude material prices dropped 3.6 percent, less than in February, but more than in March.

Further sharp decreases in energy prices were the principal reason behind the fall in the Finished Goods Price Index again in April. Changes in food prices were large but mixed, resulting in a small net increase in the index for finished consumer foods. In general, prices for other kinds of finished goods moved upward moderately.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell 0.4 percent in April to 286.9 (1967=100). Over the year from April 1985 to April 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index was down 2.1 percent. During the same period, consumer food prices edged up 0.1 percent, the index for energy goods plunged 28.5 percent, and finished goods other than foods and energy increased 2.2 percent. The index for intermediate goods dropped 3.9 percent in the 12 months ended in April 1986, and crude material prices decreased 12.3 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF MAY 26, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Of the 49.7 million women in the civilian labor force in 1984, 2.8 million were of Hispanic origin, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In 1985, about 905,000 Hispanic families were maintained by women. More than half of these families had incomes in 1984 which placed them below the U.S. poverty level, compared with 35 percent of all families maintained by women, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In March 1985, the median age of Hispanic women in the U.S. was 34.4 years, compared with 40.2 years for all women in the general population, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Week of June 2, 1986

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REAL EARNINGS IN APRIL 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--APRIL 1986

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Week of June 2, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN APRIL 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.4 percent from March to April after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This increase stemmed from a 0.4 percent decrease in the Consumer Price Index, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). Average hourly earnings and average weekly hours were unchanged over the month.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 2.0 percent between April of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.3 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.9 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $304.15 in April 1986, compared with $298.05 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased by 0.4 percent from March to April. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.3 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuatuons in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of June 2, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--APRIL 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) declined 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment in April to a level of 325.3 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in April, the CPI-U has increased 1.6 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) declined 0.3 percent in April prior to seasonal adjustment. The April 1986 CPI-W level of 320.4 (1967=100) was 1.2 percent higher than the index in April 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U declined 0.3 percent in April, following decreases of 0.4 percent in each of the preceding 2 months. During this 3 month period, prices have declined at a 4.3 percent seasonally adjusted annual rate, the largest such decrease since the 3 month period ended in January 1949. Energy prices continued to decline in April--down 5.8 percent. The CPI excluding energy advanced 0.4 percent, about the same as the average monthly increase in the preceding 12-month period.

During the first 4 months of 1986, the CPI-U declined at an annual rate of 2.3 percent. This compares with a 3.8 percent increase in all of 1985.

The transportation index, again reflecting a drop in prices for motor fuels and used cars, declined 2.5 percent in April, its third consecutive monthly decrease. Gasoline prices --down 11.3 percent in April--have dropped 26.5 percent in the past 3 months. These decreases have brought the gasoline index back to the mid-1979 level and to a point 34.9 percent below the peak level of March 1981. Used car prices declined for the third consecutive month--down 0.8 percent in April--and were 5.6 percent below their level a year ago. A drop in automobile finance charges--down 1.8 percent--also contributed to the decrease in transportation costs. On the other hand, the indexes for new cars, automobile insurance costs, and public transportation increased in April. New car prices advanced 0.6 percent in April, partially reflecting the higher prices of imports. Automobile insurance costs increased 0.8 percent in April to a level of 13.5 percent higher than in April 1985. The index for public transportation increased 0.2 percent, after registering a 0.2 percent decline in March.

The housing index increased 0.3 percent in April, following a 0.2 percent rise in March. A 0.9 percent rise in the cost of shelter more than offset declines in the other two major housing groups--fuel and utilities and household furnishings and operations. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 1.1 percent, homeowners' costs increased 0.8 percent, and maintenance and repair costs were, on average, unchanged. The index for fuel and utilities declined for the third consecutive month. Fuel oil prices, which declined 4.6 percent in April, have fallen 22.1 percent in the first 4 months of 1986 and are 30.3 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for electricity and natural gas--down 0.9 and 0.4 percent, respectively--declined for the second consecutive month. Partially offsetting these decreases was a 1.8 percent rise in local telephone service charges. The 0.4 percent drop in the index for household furnishings and operation was largely due to declines in the indexes for furniture and bedding and textile housefurnishings.

more

The food and beverage component rose 0.3 percent in April. Grocery store food prices--up 0.2 percent-- registered their first increase since January. This advance was primarily a result of a 7.0 percent increase in prices for fresh fruits and vegetables. In particular; lettuce prices rose 26.7 percent in April. Partially offsetting the increase in fresh fruits and vegetables was a decline in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. Beef prices--down 2.9 percent in April--declined for the fourth consecutive month. Pork prices increased 0.6 percent, following seasonal adjustment, but were still below their level at the end of 1985. Prices for other meats, poultry, and eggs all declined in April and were lower than at the end of last year. Each of the other major grocery store food groups reflected very little price movement in April. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--increased 0.4 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The April increase of 0.6 percent in the medical care component follows a 1.0 percent rise in March. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.4 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.7 percent, with the costs of professional services and hospital rooms up 0.6 and 0.5 percent, respectively.

After registering declines in each of the first 3 months of 1986, the index for apparel and upkeep advanced 0.3 percent in April. The indexes for both clothing and apparel services also increased 0.3 percent in April.

The entertainment component increased 0.1 percent in April, following a slight decline in March. A 0.5 percent increase in the index for entertainment services more than offset a 1.2 percent decline in prices for sporting goods and equipment. The index for other goods and services increased 0.4 percent in April, the same as in March.

# # #

WEEK OF June 2, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Of the 49.7 million women in the civilian labor force in 1984, 2.8 million were of Hispanic origin, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1985, about 905,000 Hispanic families were maintained by women. More than half of these families had incomes in 1984 which placed them below the U.S. poverty level, compared with 35 percent of all families maintained by women, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In March 1985, the median age of Hispanic women in the U.S. was 34.4 years, compared with 40.2 years for all women in the general population, according to "Women of Hispanic Origin in the United States Labor Force," a publication of the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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NEWS
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UNITED STATES
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IN THIS ISSUE:

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Week of June 9, 1986

FIRST BLACK WOMAN SWORN IN AS WAGE-HOUR ADMINISTRATOR

WASHINGTON -- Paula V. Smith was sworn in as the 15th Wage and Hour Administrator in the U.S. Department of Labor by Secretary of Labor William E. Brock. Smith, the first black woman to serve in the position, was nominated for the job by President Reagan in January and confirmed by the Senate in May.

After administering the oath, Secretary Brock declared, "Paula Smith has the unique combination of broad-based administrative experience in government and the private sector to make her an outstanding leader of the Wage-Hour Division."

As an agency of the Employment Standards Administration, the Wage-Hour Division enforces various Federal wage and hour laws under the Fair Labor Standards Act, which sets minimum wage, overtime pay, child labor and record-keeping standards. Mrs. Smith will also be responsible for enforcement of the Service Contract Act, the Davis-Bacon Act and the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act.

Before joining the Labor Department, Mrs. Smith served in the governor's cabinet as the Director of the Missouri State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations. She was also the manager of professional training and development for Trans World Airlines, Inc. (TWA). She was associated with TWA for over 20 years, rising through the ranks from customer services specialist.

Mrs. Smith is a native of St. Louis, Mo., and received a B.S. degree in economics at Washington University and a master's degree in business administration from St. Louis University.

She is a former presidential appointee to the National Commission on Employment Policy and is a past member of the Interstate Conference of Employment Security Agencies, Inc., the Missouri Job Training Coordinating Council, and Jobs for Missouri Graduates, Inc.

Mrs. Smith's former affiliations also include the National Association of Commissions for Women, the American Association of University Women, the American Society for Public Administration and Women Executives in State Government. She is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha, and has received numerous state and national awards.

Mrs. Smith is married to Lloyd Arthur Smith; they have two sons and a daughter.

# # #

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Week of June 9, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $5.8 MILLION FOR BLACKS, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 6 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $5,848,414 in grants to black and other dislocated workers in Florida, Indiana, Maryland, Minnesota, Oregon and Wisconsin who are unemployed due to layoffs and plant closings.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide dislocated workers with re-training and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"American workers permanently displaced from their jobs must not only seek new employment, but they must develop new skills," Brock said. "JTPA is designed to help these workers in acquiring the skills necessary to meet the demands of a changing labor market."

Florida's Brevard County Community College will receive $300,000 to assist up to 250 workers affected by layoffs relating to shuttle operations at the Kennedy Space Center. The project is primarily designed to provide job search and placement services.

The Indiana Office of Occupational Development will receive $1,000,000 to assist up to 550 former steelworkers in Howard and surrounding counties, including the city of Kokomo. The funds will provide classroom and on-the-job training to workers laid off from Continental Steel. Additional services include basic education and job search and placement assistance.

Maryland's Department of Employment and Training will receive $250,000 to assist up to 650 workers laid off from Black and Decker (Hempstead facility in Carroll County). The Black and Decker Employee Assistance Center Project will provide remedial and vocational education, retraining assistance, classroom and on-the-job training, counseling, job search workshops, job clubs and other supportive services.

The Jobs for Families project operated by the Employment Action Center and the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Center in Minnesota will receive $200,000 to assist up to 105 dislocated miners. The areas affected are Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itaska, Koochiching, Lake, St. Louis (excluding the city of Duluth), Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott, and Washington counties. The project will provide relocation assistance, job search and related services.

-more-

Week of June 9, 1986

PROPORTION OF BLACK UNION MEMBERS HIGHER THAN WHITES IN 1985

WASHINGTON -- The proportion of black employed wage and salary workers who were members of a union in 1985 (24.3 percent), was higher than that of white workers (17.3 percent), but white union members earned more than blacks.

According to data published in a research summary in the May issue of Monthly Labor Review on the union membership of employed wage and salary workers, black men who were employed in 1985 and affiliated with a union (27.9 percent of total) had a higher percentage of membership represented than white men (21.5 percent of total).

Similarly, black women who were employed and members of a union (20.7 percent) had a higher percentage of representation than white women (12.1 percent).

Median weekly earnings of blacks who worked full-time and who were represented by a union were $352, compared with $433 for whites. In contrast, median earnings of blacks and whites who worked full-time but who were not represented by a union were $246 and $323, respectively.

In 1985, black men working full time and represented by a union received median weekly earnings of $381; white men in the same category earned a median of $475. Similarly, black women who worked full time and were union members earned a median of $316, $40 less than the median earnings received by white women.

Median weekly earnings of black and white women who worked full-time but were not represented by a union were $228 and $267, respectively.

Data on union employment were obtained from the Current Population Survey (CPS), conducted by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The CPS collected data on workers identified by their membership in unions or by their representation at work by a union, whether or not they were members. It should be noted that the CPS union membership data covered only employed wage and salary workers, not union members who were self-employed, unemployed, retired, laid off or who, for other reasons, were not wage and salary employees.

# # #

The State of Minnesota will receive $1,317,432 to assist up to 1,113 dislocated workers in basic manufacturing, electronics production and old-line service industries throughout the state. The Tri-Industry Dislocated Workers Proposal will identify the "hardest to serve" population within those industries and recommend specific services through state dislocated worker committees. Services include short-term vocational and on-the-job training.

The Executive Department (Intergovernmental Relations Division) of Oregon will receive $2,000,000 to assist up to 1,000 dislocated lumber and wood workers throughout the state. The funds will provide classroom, on-the-job and entrepreneurial training, job search assistance, counseling, placement services, skill upgrading and other supportive services.

Wisconsin's UAW Job Development and Training Corporation will receive $700,000 to assist up to 500 dislocated Allis-Chalmers-Siemens-Allis plant workers in Milwaukee. A worker transition center will be established to provide worker assessment, job workshops, counseling, on-the-job and classroom training and basic skills education.

United Migrant Opportunity Services in Wisconsin will receive $80,982 to assist up to 47 drivers and warehouse workers dislocated from the Roundy's facility. The Kaukauna and Northern Lake Winnebago area is affected. The project will provide on-the-job and customized training, basic skills and vocational training, job club activities and job search assistance.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of June 9, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The number of employed wage and salary workers who were members of unions or employee associations declined from 20.1 million to 17.0 million between 1980 and 1985, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Between 1980 and 1985 the number of employed wage and salary workers rose from 87.5 million to 94.5 million, according to the Labor Department's publication, Monthly Labor Review of May 1986.

# # #

Among the major industry groups, the transportation, communications, and public utilities industry had the highest proportion of union membership -- 37 percent, or 2.1 million members out of 5.7 million workers, according to the May issue of Monthly Labor Review, a publication of the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# # #

Much union membership is concentrated in three major industry groups according to the Monthly Labor Review of the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics: The public sector accounted for 33.8 percent of all employed union members; manufacturing for 29.4 percent; and transportation, communications and public utilities for 12.5 percent. Although these groups accounted for three-fourths of union membership, they employed only 44 percent of the nation's wage and salary workers.

# # #

6/16/86

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WEEK OF JUNE 16, 1986

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- PROJECTS FOR BLACKS, DISADVANTAGED YOUTH AND DISABLED ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARIES BROCK AND BOWEN
- REPRESENTATIVES FROM AFRICAN NATIONS ATTEND SEMINAR ON COMPUTER TRAINING
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Week of June 16, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT UNCHANGED IN MAY

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was unchanged in May at 14.8 percent, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The unemployment rate for black adult men, which held steady at 12.6 percent in March and April, was 12.7 percent in May. The jobless rate for black adult women edged up from 12.5 to 12.8 percent.

The jobless rate for black youth aged 16 to 19 moved down slightly over the month from 42.6 to 40.8 percent.

Employment and unemployment both rose slightly in May. The overall unemployment rate for civilian workers each moved up two-tenths of a percentage point over the month to 7.2 and 7.3 percent, respectively.

The number of nonagricultural payroll jobs--as measured by the monthly survey of business establishments--edged up by 150,000 to 99.9 million, continuing the pattern of moderate but steady advances which has characterized the past year and a half. Total civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--has also increased moderately over this period.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The civilian worker unemployment rate edged up 0.2 percentage point to 7.3 percent in May, after seasonal adjustment. Despite the small increase, the jobless rate has shown no definitive trend thus far in 1986, after exhibiting mild improvement in the second half of last year. The number of unemployed persons rose by 210,000 to nearly 8.6 million, with all of the increase occurring among adult men. The unemployment rate for adult men increased from 6.0 to 6.4 percent over the month; it had averaged 6.0 percent since mid-1985. Jobless rates for adult women (6.5 percent), teenagers (19.0 percent), whites (6.2 percent), blacks (14.8 percent), and Hispanics (11.0 percent) all showed little or no change from April.

The May increase in unemployment occurred both among persons on layoff and those who lost their last job and do not expect recall; these increases were only partially offset by a decline in the number of persons who voluntarily left their jobs. The rise in unemployment was distributed throughout all of the duration categories, so that both measures of average duration of unemployment--the mean and the median--were little changed in May, at 14.4 and 6.6 weeks, respectively.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment, at 109.1 million in May, was up slightly over the month, after seasonal adjustment. All of the gain occurred among adult women. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs, which has been at very high levels, edged up to 60.5 percent. The employment-population ratio for adult women increased sharply to 51.8 percent, the highest level ever recorded.

The civilian labor force grew by 430,000 to 117.7 million in May. This was nearly 2 million higher than a year earlier (after allowance is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January). The civilian labor force participation rate also increased over the month, reaching a record-high 65.3 percent.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls rose slightly in May to 99.9 million, after seasonal adjustment. Continued job expansion in the service-producing sector was partially offset by declines within the goods-producing sector. Over-the-month increases occurred in just under half of the industries in the BLS index of diffusion.

Employment in the service-producing sector rose by 200,000 in May, half of which was in the services industry. Business and health services, the two largest components of that division, posted sizable gains. Finance, insurance, and real estate employment rose by about 30,000, reflecting low interest rates and a strong housing market. Retail trade recorded a 45,000 increase, much of it in eating and drinking places. Employment levels were little changed for government, wholesale trade, and transportation and public utilities.

In the goods-producing sector, the number of jobs in the oil and gas extraction component of mining declined almost 30,000 over the month and has fallen by 100,000 so far this year. Manufacturing continued its downward trend, posting an over-the-month decline of 40,000 jobs, mostly in the durable goods industries. Employment in the motor vehicle and equipment industry accounted for about half of the decline in durable goods, falling by 15,000. This industry has lost 50,000 jobs since early 1985. Small decreases also continued in the other four major metal and metal-using industries. Total manufacturing employment was down by 115,000 over the past year and 300,000 since its post-recession high reached in August 1984. Construction employment edged up in May after a very large jump in the previous month.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls edged down 0.1 hour to 34.7 hours in May, after seasonal adjustment. The manufacturing workweek also declined 0.1 hour to 40.6 hours, still a fairly high level. Factory overtime, at 3.4 hours, has remained unchanged since February.

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The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls was unchanged in May at 117.7 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment, and has changed little so far this year. The slow over-the-month job growth was essentially offset by the slight hours decline. As a result of the dropoff in the oil and gas extraction component, the mining index continued its rapid fall with a decrease of 6.5 percent.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose 0.3 percent, and weekly earnings were about unchanged, after seasonal adjustment. Prior to seasonal adjustment, both average hourly and weekly earnings remained at $8.72 and $302.58, respectively. Over the past year, hourly earnings rose 21 cents, and weekly earnings were up $5.58.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 168.8 (1977=100) in May, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.2 percent from April. For the 12 months ended in May, the increase was 2.6 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.4 percent over the 12-month period ended in April.

# # #

Week of June 16, 1986

BLACKS, OTHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN TRAINING FOR HANDICAPPED AT JOB CORPS CENTERS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a program to train handicapped black and other handicapped individuals at federal Job Corps Centers (JCCs).

Eligible applicants are those who use wheelchairs, but are able to take care of their daily living needs. The poverty income and/or age limitation may be waived for such handicapped applicants.

The Gainesville, Florida JCC began admitting applicants last month, and is the first of three centers to be used. The Little Rock, Arkansas JCC is expected to begin admitting applicants by October 1986; the Sacramento, California JCC by April 1987.

Applicants will be referred to the centers by outreach and screening agencies throughout the continental U.S. These agencies include local Job Service (Employment Service) offices, as well as a number of private contractors.

Prior to admission, applicants will be evaluated to ensure they are physically ble to participate in the program. Vocational training is offered in business-clerical services, retail sales and electronic assembly.

For additional information, contact the nearest Job Corps outreach-screening agency or Job Corps regional office (list attached).

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REGIONAL DIRECTORS FOR JOB CORPS

JOANNE HERING
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
J.F. Kennedy Bldg., Rm. 1700-C
Government Center
Boston, Massachusetts 02203
Telephone: (617) 223-4684
FTS: 8-223-4684

STANLEY BELZA
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
1515 Broadway, Rm. 3612
New York, New York 10036
Telephone: (212) 944-2990
FTS: 8-265-2990

EDITH GOLDBERG McDONALD
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
3535 Market Street, Rm. 12220
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19104
Telephone: (215) 596-6301
FTS: 8-596-6301

JERRY RUCKER
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
1371 Peachtree Street, N.E.
Room 632
Atlanta, Georgia 30309
Telephone: (404) 881-3178
FTS: 8-257-3178

HOWARD ROBERTS
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
Federal Bldg., Fifth Floor
230 South Dearborn Street
Chicago, Illinois 60604
Telephone: (312) 375-1572
FTS: 8-353-1572

T. JAMES WALKER
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
555 Griffin Square Bldg., Suite 40
Griffin and Young Streets
Dallas, Texas 75202
Telephone: (214) 767-2567
FTS: 8-729-2567

JOHN DOUGLAS
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
Federal Bldg., Rm. 1100
911 Walnut Street
Kansas City, Missouri 64106
Telephone: (816) 374-3661
FTS: 8-758-3661

JOHN DOUGLAS
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
Federal Office Bldg., Rm. 1680
1961 Stout Street
Denver, Colorado 80202
Telephone: (303) 844-4807
FTS: 8-564-4807

DONALD A BUCHANNON
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
450 Golden Gate Avenue, Rm. 9477
San Francisco, California 94102
Telephone: (415) 556-8545
FTS: 8-556-8545

PAUL J. KROIS,
U.S. Department of Labor, ETA
Office of Job Corps
Federal Office Building
909 First Avenue, Rm. 1131
Seattle, Washington 98174
Telephone: (206) 442-1133
FTS: 8-399-1133

# # #

Week of June 16, 1986

PROJECTS FOR BLACKS, DISADVANTAGED YOUTH, AND DISABLED ANNOUNCED BY SECRETARIES BROCK AND BOWEN

WASHINGTON -- Two federal agencies have announced a joint working initiative totalling $8.13 million to promote the social and economic self-sufficiency of disadvantaged black and other youth and persons with severe disabilities.

Labor Secretary William E. Brock and Health and Human Services Secretary Otis R. Bowen, M.D., said their departments will join with several community organizations and private foundations to provide funding for over 76 innovative community and four state projects.

The four state projects are located in Arizona, Maine, Oklahoma and South Carolina. States with community projects are: California, Delaware, Florida, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Montana, New Hampshire, New York, Ohio, Oregon, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas and Wisconsin. Two projects are headquartered in the District of Columbia. Additional project sites will be identified at a later date.

The projects will improve linkages between social services, education, training and jobs programs at the local level in order to help school dropouts, welfare recipients, teen parents and persons with developmental disabilities.

"Communication and coordination between agencies which serve the same segment of the population is minimal and often non-existent," Secretary Brock said. "This agreement is the first of its kind to help eliminate duplication, increase efficiency, and ultimately, lower the cost of our programs." Brock added that the federal government will take a leadership role in this effort but "the real job must be accomplished at the state and local level, where the population is actually being served."

Secretary Bowen said, "We must all work together in order to provide opportunities for disadvantaged persons to lead self-sufficient lives. This public/private partnership effort will help us test and replicate innovative programs to promote the self-sufficiency of both youth and disabled persons."

The announcement reflects a mutual commitment by the Department of Labor and the Department of Health and Human Services to improve coordination between federal agencies and promote public/private partnerships in order to maximize federal resources.

more

HHS — DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for In-School Youth

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
• Replication of the Boston Compact	National Alliance of Business 1015 15th St.,N.W. Wash., D.C. 20005 * Steven Pines	Decreases truancy and reduces the dropout rate through an agreement between private sector employers and the school systems in five cities.	173,543	15,000
• Inner-City Centers for At-Risk Youth	Eisenhower Foundation 1125 "I"St., N.W. Suite 504 Wash., D.C. 20006 * Lynn A. Curtis	Provides remediation and employment opportunities for severely at-risk youth in residential settings in five inner city neighborhoods. (A 4 to 1 project.)	159,865	1,000
• New York City Boys Athletic League	New York City Boys Athletic League 1123 Broadway, Room 917 N.Y., N.Y. 10010 * Martha Golensky	The police athletic club will sponsor a special counseling remedial education program for at-risk youth.	73,529	200

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY
Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for In-School Youth

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
. Juvenile Awareness Program	Juvenile Awareness Program, Inc. 19 Lambson Lane New Castle, Delaware 19720 *Ozzie L. Hall, Jr.	A comprehensive service center to reduce gang violence by increasing education and employment opportunities.	162,500	140
. Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin	Oneida Tribe of Indians P.O. Box 365 Oneida, Wisc. 54155 * Robert Christ-John	Will provide remedial education and employment opportunities through an adult/mentor program.	18,600	3,500
. YMCA Project in Manchester, New Hampshire	YMCA Manchester, New Hampshire 30 Mechanic St. Manchester, N.H. 03101 *Robert Turner	Provides an outward-bound-type remediation and counseling program to at-risk youth.	93,461	144

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY
Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for Dropouts

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
. Project Pride	Dept. of Administration 316 S. Second St. Springfield, Illinois 62762 * Steve Ford	Uses job behavior coaching and part-time employment to encourage economic self-sufficiency among AFDC recipients.	150,000	150
. Rural Opportunities Youth Integration Projects	Rural Opportunities Inc., N.Y. State Operation 339 E. Ave.,S. 305 Rochester,N.Y.14604 * Nyla Gaylord	Serves farmworker youth through academic assistance, labor market information support services and jobs.	100,000	120
. Youth Improvement Programs	Lake Flagher Private Industry Council P.O. Box 351 Daytona Beach, Florida 32015 * Laurence Tomasetti	Offers GED, work experience and job placement for youthful offenders.	100,000	50

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY
Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for Dropouts

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
. Franchising The Operations Success Model	Human Resources Administration 250 Church St., Room 1233 N.Y.,N.Y. 10013 *	Intensive program to aid dropouts, particularly homeless youth in shelters and foster care through employability.	198,955	950
. Reaching for Education to End Poverty for Indian Teens	Crow Creek Sioux Tribe P.O. Box 657 Fort Thompson, S.D. 57339 * Marilyn Fleury	Uses adult mentors, alternative education and employability services to aid Indian teens.		200

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for At-Risk Youth

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding
National Issues Forums Forum Sites and Contacts . Julie Zimet Leadership El Paso 10 Civic Center Plaza El Paso, Texas 79997 . Greg Hansen Salem-Keiser Public Schools 1309 Ferry Street, S.E. Salem Oregon 97301 . Jan Rivers South Carolina Dept. of Youth 1122 Lady Street P.O. Box 7367 Columbia, S.C. . Joyce Young Miami Valley Regional Training 117 South Main Street Dayton, Ohio 45402 . William Holnacki Indiana University Foundation P.O. Box 1847 Bloomington, Ind. 47402	Kettering Foundation 5335 Far Hills Ave. Dayton, Ohio 45429 James C. Wilder	Will fund a series of forums across the country to develop community-wide responses to prepare school dropouts and other disadvanataged youth for social and economic self-sufficiency. These forums will benefit entire communities.	177,825

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for Services Integration

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION					
Service Integration Pilots	N/A	Four projects to develop better linkages between human services and employment and training programs.	Specific project breakouts and total funding are being determined.				
. Arizona Community Services Integration Projects	Arizona Department of Economic Security Division of Planning and Policy Development P.O. Box 6133 Phoenix, Arizona *Bruce Liggett	Will assist families in moving through the integrated system.					
. Maine Family Service Integration Demonstration	Maine Department of Human Services 200 Maine Street Lewiston, Maine 04240 * Douglas Hall	Targets teen parents in an attempt to improve service delivery.					
. Oklahoma Family-Oriented	State of Oklahoma Direct of Integrated Services Project Department of Human Services, Field Operations Divisions, P.O.Box 25352, Oklahoma City, Okla. 73125 * Donna Stahl	Focuses on increasing job placements for services integration.					

BLACK NEWS DIGEST - 6/16/86
PROJECT P.7

HHS — DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for Services Integration

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
. South Carolina Human Services Integration Project	South Carolina Reorganization Commission 228 Solomon Blatt Building 1105 Rondell St. P.O. Box 11485 Columbia, South Carolina 29201 * Philip Grose	Will increase a consolidated human and health service system that will focus on economic self-sufficiency for clients.		

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of Human Development and Administration on the Developmentally Disabled Joint Projects

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
• Montana Employment Project for Persons with Developmental Disabilities	Montana DD Planning and Advisory Council 25 South Ewing Room 506 Helena, Montana 59602 * Clyde Muirheid	To provide training and technical assistance to local service providers and employers for enhancing employment assistance.	98,040	2,000
• Tennessee Initiative in Employment	Department of Retardation 505 Deoderick St. Nashville, Tennessee 37219-5393 * James G. Foshee	Seeks to increase interagency collaboration and planning between 10 statewide agencies and organizations.	56,268	450

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY
Office of Human Development Coordinated Discretionary Projects for Teen Parents

TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION AND CONTACT PERSON*	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	Total Federal Funding	Number of Persons Benefitting
• Teen Parent Center Self-Sufficiency Project	Teen Parent Center Baton Rouge, Louisiana P.O. Box 94095 Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70804 * Eleanor Shirley	Focuses on the use of alternative education and an employment internship component to prevent teen parents from dropping out of school.	174,010	750
• New Chance: A National Demonstration for Teenage Mothers	Manpower Demonstration Administration Three Park Avenue New York, New York 10016 * Barbara Blun	A five-city project designed to help teenage mothers who are high school dropouts by working through PICs to increase employability skills; support from the Ford Foundation .	150,000	400

* We are currently working with HHS Office of Adolescent Pregnancy Programs to fund a number of additional teen parent centers.

-more-

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation -- Conference on The Needs of Teen Fathers

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	
Teenage Fathers and Economic Self-Sufficiency	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE/HHS)	To define research and policy issues regarding young males and the problem of teenage pregnancy. Activity will culminate in Sept. meeting of Federal staff as well as experts in the field to develop long-range research policy agendas.	

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BLACK NEWS DIGEST - 6/16/86
PROJECT P. 12

HHS -- DOL JOINT PROJECTS: A SUMMARY

Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation -- Conference on The Needs of Teen Fathers

PROJECT TITLE	PROJECT ORGANIZATION	BRIEF DESCRIPTION	
Teenage Fathers and Economic Self-Sufficiency	Office of the Assistant Secretary for Planning and Evaluation (ASPE/HHS)	To define research and policy issues regarding young males and the problem of teenage pregnancy. Activity will culminate in Sept. meeting of Federal staff as well as experts in the field to develop long-range research policy agendas.	

# # #

Week of June 16, 1986

REPRESENTATIVES FROM AFRICAN NATIONS ATTEND SEMINAR ON COMPUTER TRAINING

WASHINGTON -- Representatives from Ghana, Kenya and Nigeria are attending a seminar, "Computer Packages for Beginners and Users of Labor Statistics," at the Labor Department's Internal Labor Statistics Program Center of the Bureau of Labor Statistics. They are:

Francis Kobla Worchie, assistant chief technical officer with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare, Ghana

-- William Cheruiyot Ng'eno statistical officer, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Kenya

-- Harrison M. Kinyua, economist/statistician, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Kenya, and

-- Adetunji O. Adeyemo, principal secretary with the Board of Productivity, Prices and Incomes, Nigeria

The five-week seminar, which runs through June 20, is designed for persons with no previous experience in using computers, and is designed especially for users and analysts of labor statistics who would like to learn how computers or microcomputers might assist them in their work.

The seminar will give participants a general understanding of different types of computers and their capabilities and provide a basis for informed decision making in the procurement of computer equipment to correspond with the needs and resources of the organization.

The seminar is new to the schedule of seminars conducted by the BLS International Labor Statistics Program.

BLS has provided a program of training and technical assistance in labor statistics to other nations for more than 35 years under auspices of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

# # #

Week of June 16, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Summer Youth Employment Program gives economically disadvantaged youth job opportunities and related training and educational services during the summer months. States and local service delivery areas received a total of $824.6 million for the summer of 1984 and provided more than 753,000 summer jobs for disadvantaged youth, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The Job Corps program provides a wide range of training, education and support, primarily in residential centers, for disadvantaged youth 16 to 21 years of age. The program is administered by the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

The Job Corps program operated 107 training centers during the period July 1984 to June 1985 at a cost of $587 million, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The majority of Job Corps Centers are residential, but a number of centers have combined residential and nonresidential programs. Enrollees in nonresidential programs participate in the center's training and programs, but reside at home. The Job Corps program is administered by the Employment and Training Administration of the U.S. Labor Department.

# # #

6/23/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

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Week of June 23, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BROCK ANNOUNCES $3.3 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN SIX STATES

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS BY NCCU

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--MAY 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Room 1458
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Week of June 23, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $3.3 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN SIX STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $3,334,235 in grants to aid black and other dislocated workers in Alabama, Maryland, Massachusetts, Ohio, Virginia and Washington.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide dislocated workers with re-training and supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"Through JTPA, we can provide direct assistance to those caught up in changing economies," Brock said. "We will continue to do all that we can to offer them new opportunities."

Alabama's Department of Economic and Community Affairs (Employment and Training Division) will operate a $642,500 project to assist up to 500 workers. The aid is for workers dislocated due to a restructuring of Continental Steel, the closing of a department of Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, and the closures of the Coosa River Garment Company, the Crompton Company and Gulf States Steel. A dislocated worker center will be established at Gadsden State Community College to provide job search assistance, classroom and on-the-job training, and other supportive services.

The Maryland Department of Employment and Training/Frederick County Training Agency will operate a $100,000 project to assist up to 100 workers dislocated by the Freeman Shoe Company plant closure. The project will provide job search workshops and job clubs, as well as on-the-job and classroom training, and other supportive services.

Massachusett's Industrial Services Program will operate a $600,000 project to assist up to 1,240 workers dislocated by mass layoffs at United Technologies Corporation and Buxton Leather in Hampden County. The project will provide classroom training, job search workshops and other supportive services.

Ohio's Kaiser Foundation Hospitals will operate a $291,735 project to assist up to 275 workers dislocated by the partial closure of the Cleveland Medical Center. The project will provide counseling and placement services, and classroom, on-the-job and vocational training.

The Virginia Employment Commission will operate a $350,000 project to assist up to 330 dislocated coal miners and workers who were laid off by mining-dependent companies. Workers in Buchanan, Dickenson, Lee, Russell, Scott, Tazewell, and Wise counties, and the city of Norton are affected. The project will provide counseling, testing, certification, classroom and on-the-job training, out-of-the-area interviews and job development.

more

The Virginia Employment Commission will operate another $350,000 project to assist up to 330 workers dislocated by AT&T Technologies, Kroger Supermarkets, medical facilities and garment factories. Workers from Bland, Carroll, Floyd, Giles, Grayson, Montgomery, Pulaski, Smyth, Washington, and Wythe counties, and the cities of Galax, Radford and Bristol are affected. The project will provide on-the-job and classroom training, testing, job search assistance, out-of-area interviews, job workshops, pre-relocation assistance, job development and employment counseling.

Washington's Employment Security Department will operate a $1,000,000 project to assist up to 325 workers displaced from the shipbuilding industry in the Takoma/Seattle area. The project will provide self-directed job search, institutional and on-the-job training, relocation assistance and supportive services.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment and reemployment.

# # #

Week of June 23, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARMENT EMPLOYEE NAMED DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS BY NCCU

WASHINGTON -- Dora E. Carrington, a social science advisor with the U.S. Department of Labor here, was named Distinguished Alumnus of 1986 by North Carolina Central University (NCCU) at the university's annual commencement exercises.

Carrington is president of the NCCU alumni association and the first woman to serve as national president of the organization.

A native of Durham, N.C., Carrington received her undergraduate degree from NCCU in 1959. She received her master's degree in business and public administration from Southeastern University in Washington, D.C.

Carrington is employed by the Women's Bureau in the Department of Labor. She began her career with the department 25 years ago as a clerk-typist.

Earlier this year she received the department's Meritorious Achievement Award.

Carrington is an active member of the American Business Women's Association (ABWA) and was recently named one of the top 10 businesswomen of the year by the organization.

In addition to her membership in ABWA, she is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Xi Omega Chapter; Federally Employed Women and the National Association of Female Executives.

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Week of June 23, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--MAY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods increased 0.6 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis from April to May, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

During the first 4 months of 1986, in contrast, the index had registered an average monthly decline of 1.0 percent.

The index for intermediate materials, supplies and components continued to fall, although its 0.2 percent drop in May was much smaller than in any other month so far this year. Prices received by producers of crude goods climbed 2.3 percent over the month, following 4 months of steep declines.

Most of the turnaround in the Finished Goods Price Index in May was caused by an upturn in prices for finished energy goods. However, prices for energy goods continued to decline at the intermediate level.

Substantially higher food prices also contributed to the advance in the Finished Goods Price Index. The index for finished goods other than foods and energy continued to rise slightly--0.2 percent.

Although the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.7 percent in May before seasonal adjustment to 289.0 (1967=100), it was still 1.7 percent lower in May 1986 than in May 1985. During the same period, food prices increased 2.0 percent, the index for energy goods plunged 28.6 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.5 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 1.8 percent. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods were 4.1 percent lower than in May 1985, and the crude materials index decreased 9.8 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF JUNE 23, 1985

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Women accounted for nearly 44 percent of all persons in the civilian labor force in 1984 compared with 40 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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From 1975 through 1984, the United States civilian labor force grew by 21 percent. Women contributed more than 62 percent of the total growth as their numbers rose from 37 million to 50 million, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In 1983 more than 1 out of 3 families maintained by a woman was poor, compared with 1 out of 13 other types of families, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

A significant change for women has been the increased movement into executive, administrative, and managerial occupations. In 1975 women constituted only 22 percent of this group, and by 1984 that share had risen to 34 percent, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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6/30/86

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NEWS
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Week of June 30, 1986

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UNCF HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL JOB FAIR AT U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

LABOR DEPARTMENT PROGRAM AT PREDOMINANTLY BLACK ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL CITED FOR EXCELLENCE

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--MAY 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN MAY 1986

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Alaska
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Week of June 30, 1986

UNCF HOSTS SECOND ANNUAL JOB FAIR AT U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- About 2,000 persons, many of them graduates from historically black colleges and universities, participated in the second annual United Negro College Fund Job Fair held at the U.S. Department of Labor here.

Roger Semerad, assistant secretary of labor for the Employment and Training Administration, and Arthur A. Fletcher, president of Arthur A. Fletcher Associates and the originator of the UNCF Job Fair concept, opened the fair with remarks to the jobseekers.

Semerad, speaking on behalf of Labor Secretary William E. Brock, who was the honorary chairman of this year's job fair, encouraged the jobseekers to be flexible throughout their careers because of rapid changes expected to take place in the workplace in the years ahead.

"There will be a rapid pace of change and how well you adapt to that change will enhance your contributions to this nation's productivity," Semerad said.

Over 80 job recruiters from government and private industry participated in the day-long event, which drew recent college graduates and other jobseekers.

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Week of June 30, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT PROGRAM AT PREDOMINANTLY BLACK ATLANTA HIGH SCHOOL CITED FOR EXCELLENCE

ATLANTA -- "I am compelled to report to you that it may very well be the best single example of a job-related volunteer program that we have seen. Congratulations!"

With these words, Dr. Boyd D. Odum, executive director of the Atlanta Partnership of Business and Education, Inc., applauded the U.S. Department of Labor's Southeastern regional Adopt-A-School program at the city's predominantly black Grady High School.

An outgrowth of President Reagan's 1983 "National Partnerships in Education," the Labor Department's project has asisted Grady High for the past two academic years.

The department's relationship with the school received national recognition during its first year as one of the most successful programs in the nation. This year, according to Ken Baker, the Secretary of Labor's representative in the Southeast, the program surpassed its own previous outstanding performance.

Sixty-one Labor Department employees "moonlighted" during their daytime lunch hours. All were tutors whose reward came not in the form of a paycheck but from the grateful expressions of their "adopted" students.

The department's Women's Bureau repeated its popular essay contest, increasing the winner's jackpot from $100 to $200. Once again, the contest coincided with Women's History Week and required contestants to submit essays on this year's theme of women as builders of communities and dreams.

Gil Painter, the 1985-86 regional Adopt-A-School chairman, conducted a six-week employability workshop designed to develop positive work habits, as well as skills needed to secure a job. Students took the roles of employees and the instructor their employer for the duration of the course. Fifteen of the 55 participating students have already been hired by Atlanta employers.

Program highlights ranged from workshops in resume writing to a course on dressing for success. Through presentations by various Labor Department agencies, students explored potential careers, developed employability skills and examined workplace safety and health regulations.

Published to list and summarize this wide variety of program offerings, the Adopt-A-School Catalog of Courses was described by Odum as "an absolutely marvelous piece of work! The format is superb and, if the format is exceeded by anything, it is the content of the courses themselves."

The total 1985-86 Labor Department contribution in volunteer time, money and materials has been estimated at approximately $40,000.

# # #

Week of June 30, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--MAY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.3 percent before seasonal adjustment in May to a level of 326.3 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in May, the CPI-U has increased 1.6 percent.

> NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics currently is completing a major revision of the Consumer Price Index. Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1987 on February 27, 1987, the Bureau will introduce revised versions of the current CPI's both for All Urban Consumers and for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. The revised CPI's will reflect more current population and spending patterns and numerous technical enhancements.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.3 percent in May prior to seasonal adjustment. The May 1986 CPI-W level of 321.4 (1967=100) was 1.1 percent higher than the index in May 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U increased 0.2 percent in May, following declines in each of the preceding 3 months. Gasoline prices, which had dropped 26.5 percent in the 3-month period ended in April, advanced 2.5 percent in May and were responsible for the turnaround in the overall CPI-U. On the other hand, household energy costs continued to decline as all 3 components--fuel oil, electricity, and natural gas--registered decreases. Excluding energy, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in May, compared with a 0.4 percent increase in April and an average monthly increase of 0.3 percent over the last 12 months.

During the first 5 months of 1986, the CPI-U declined at an annual rate of 1.4 percent. This compares with a 3.8 percent increase for all of 1985.

The transportation index, reflecting the upward movement in gasoline prices, rose 0.3 percent in May, following sharp declines in each of the 3 preceding months. Despite the advance in May, gasoline prices remained at their mid-1979 level and were 33.3 percent below their peak level of March 1981. The new car index rose 0.8 percent in May, as a result of price increases in both domestic and imported models. The index for public transportation rose 0.4 percent, after registering a 0.2 percent increase in April. On the other hand, used car prices and automobile finance changes continued to decline in May-- down 1.9 and 2.6 percent, respectively. Automobile insurance costs, which had increased 13.5 percent in the preceding 12-month period, slowed in May, advancing 0.4 percent.

The housing component declined 0.1 percent in May, following an increase of 0.3 percent in April. Shelter costs, which increased 0.9 percent in April, rose 0.1 percent in May. These increases compare with an average monthly rise of 0.5 percent for the 12 months ended in May. Within shelter, renters' and homeowners' costs rose 0.1 and 0.2 percent, respectively, while maintenance and repair costs declined 0.1 percent. The index for fuel and other utilities declined for the fourth consecutive month. Fuel oil prices, which dropped 5.1 percent in May, have fallen 26 percent in the first 5 months of 1986 to a level 33.8 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for electricity and natural gas--down 0.9 and 0.1 percent, respectively--declined for the third consecutive month. Partially offsetting the decline in fuels and moderation in shelter costs was a turnaround in the index for household furnishings and operations, which rose 0.3 percent in May largely due to a substantial increase in prices for furniture and bedding.

The food and beverage component advanced 0.4 percent in May. Grocery store food prices also rose 0.4 percent, following an increase of 0.2 percent in April. A smaller but still substantial increase in fresh fruit and vegetable prices--up 3.4 percent--accounted for most of the advance. A turnaround in the May indexes for cereal and bakery products--up 0.4 percent--and meats, poultry, fish and eggs--up 0.3 percent--were principally responsible for the moderate acceleration in grocery store food prices. Beef prices continued to decline and pork prices were unchanged in May but prices for other meats, poultry, and fish and seafood all registered substantial increases. Charges for restaurant meals rose 0.5 percent, while prices for alcoholic beverages were unchanged in May.

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in May, the same as in April. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.7 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 0.6 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

After registering its first increase of the year in April, the index for apparel and upkeep declined 0.2 percent in May. Decreases in the indexes for women's clothing, boys' clothing, and footwear more than offset small increases in prices for men's and girls' apparel. The index for apparel services rose 0.2 percent.

The entertainment and the other goods and services components both increased 0.4 percent in May, following increases in April of 0.1 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers increased 0.2 percent in May.

Week of June 30, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN MAY 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.1 percent from April to May after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This decrease stemmed from a 0.3 percent decrease in the average weekly hours and a 0.2 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which were partially offset by a 0.3 percent in average hourly earnings.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.9 percent between May of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.5 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.1 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.7 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $302.58 in May 1986, compared with $297.00 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power was unchanged from April to May. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

```
***************************************************************************
*                                                                         *
* NOTE: The estimates of average hourly earnings, average weekly hours   *
* and hourly earnings indexes have been revised to reflect new employment*
* benchmarks and updated seasonal factors. This type of revision is an   *
* annual feature of the establishment survey.                             *
*                                                                         *
***************************************************************************
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# # #

Week of June 30, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Mine Safety and Health Administration of the U.S. Labor Department oversaw coal miners' safety and health at 2,460 underground mines and 4,493 surface mines and surface facilities during fiscal year 1985, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report.

# # #

During the 1985 fiscal year, the Labor Department's Mine Safety and Health Administration made 68,448 coal mine inspections and investigations according to the department's annual report.

# # #

In fiscal year 1985, coal mining fatalities numbered 102, up from 90 in fiscal 1984 and the recordbreaking low of 76 in fiscal 1983. This total, however, is the third lowest number of fatalities recorded in the history of coal mining. Further, 27 of the 102 fatalities occurred in Wilberg Mine disaster in Utah in December 1984, the Labor Department's annual report said.

# # #

According to the Labor Department's annual report, the average number of coal mining employees, excluding office workers, declined from 199,978 in fiscal 1984 to 192,009 in fiscal 1985.

# # #

7/7/86

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Week of July 7, 1986

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HIRED BY LABOR DEPARTMENT FOR SUMMER

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON FARM EMPLOYMENT
ANNOUNCED BY U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

BROCK ANNOUNCES $5.8 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER
DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 8 STATES

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of JULY 7, 1986

15 STUDENTS FROM HISTORICALLY BLACK SCHOOLS HIRED BY LABOR DEPARTMENT FOR SUMMER

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Department of Labor, in cooperation with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), has hired 15 students from three historically black universities to work as accounting technicians for the summer.

The Labor Department is the first federal agency to participate in the special program sponsored by AICPA, which is designed to place minority accounting students in summer jobs.

The cooperative effort between the Labor Department and AICPA is in direct response to the President's request to federal executive agencies to assist historically black colleges (Executive Order 12320).

The 15 students are working as accounting technicians, participating in audits for the department's Office of the Inspector General (OIG), Office of Audit. One of those audits include the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). The students who are participating in the JTPA audit attended a week-long training session in Dallas which was also attended by certified public accountants and OIG auditors.

The students have been assigned to offices in Washington, D.C., Atlanta, New York, Philadelphia, Dallas, Chicago and San Francisco.

J. Brian Hyland, inspector general for the department, said: "In addition to providing an earning opportunity and valuable work experience for black college students, we have supported AICPA's minority outreach efforts, and this effort has enhanced the college placement offices' understanding of federal government employment opportunities and procedures."

Hyland added that he hopes the Labor Department has "laid the groundwork for recruiting some of these outstanding young people when they complete college."

The 15 students are Daryl Brady, Hampton University; Denise Dixon, Hampton University; Eric Davis, Hampton University; Cynthia Johnson, Hampton University; Efrem Thomas, Hampton University; Andrea Jones, North Carolina A & T University; Patricia Wilkerson, North Carolina A & T University; Tracey Pearson, North Carolina A & T University; Gregory Metoyer, North Carolina A & T University; Pamela Cain, Southern University; Von Celestine, Southern University; Stephanie Bruce, Southern University; Ramona Baptiste, Southern University; Marie Wheelous, North Carolina A & T University and Edith Hutchins, Hampton University.

The students were hired under the Labor Department's 1986 summer program.

###

Week of July 7, 1986

PUBLIC MEETINGS ON FARM EMPLOYMENT ANNOUNCED BY U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Public meetings to provide information and answer questions about laws and programs affecting farm employment will be held by the Labor Department in various locations across the country in July and August.

The annual meetings will address issues of concern to workers, many of whom are blacks, as well as growers, farm labor contractors and others.

In areas with high concentrations of Haitian-Creole workers, bilingual staff and translators will be used for simultaneous translations of proceedings.

Labor Department officials will explain federal laws that address farmworkers' wages and working conditions, housing, transportation, child labor standards, and job safety and health.

Among laws to be discussed are: the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act and the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Information will also be provided about services available at state Job Service offices.

The annual meetings are conducted by the Regional Farm Labor Coordinated Enforcement Committees, which include representatives from the department's Employment Standards Administration, the lead agency; the Employment and Training Administration, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the Office of the Solicitor.

In addition to the Labor Department, cosponsors of the meetings may include the state Job Service and other state agencies.

Meetings are generally scheduled in the evening to encourage greater participation by workers and growers. In addition to presentations by Labor Department officials, the agenda includes a period of questions and answers.

Following is a list of the dates and location of meetings:

July 16 Region III - Philadelphia

Auditorium of Nandua High School
Rt. 13S
Onley, Va.
8:00 p.m.

# # #

July 17 Region -V- Chicago

Century Center
120 South St. Joseph Street
South Bend, Indiana
3:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

July 18 Region VIII - Denver

San Luis Valley
Alamosa, Colo.
6:00 p.m.

July 31 Region VII - Kansas City

Pioneer Electric Cooperative
Highway 160 West
Ulysses, Kans.
7:30 p.m.

August 6 Region X - Seattle

Wenatchee Center
121 Wenatchee Avenue
Wenatchee, Wash.
6:30 p.m.

August 12 Region I - Boston

American Legion Hall
Cherrifield, Maine

August 12 Region IV - Atlanta

Spartensburg Technical College
Spartensburg, S. Car.
7:00 p.m.

The meeting for the Dallas region is to be held in El Paso in November; meetings have already been held in the New York and San Francisco regions.

# # #

Week of July 7, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $5.8 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 8 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $5,837,500 in grants for black and other dislocated workers in Connecticut, Idaho, Louisiana, Maine, North Carolina, Ohio, Rhode Island and Washington. The workers are displaced due to mass layoffs, plant closures and adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide dislocated workers with re-training and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"Our commitment to workers displaced by unfavorable economies and new technologies remains strong," Secretary Brock said. "We must provide them with the opportunity to learn new skills and occupations."

The Connecticut Department of Labor's JTPA Administration will receive $800,000 to assist up to 1,000 workers dislocated and soon-to-be-dislocated as a result of mass layoffs at the New Departure-Hyatt Bearing Corporation, and the relocation of the Picker Corporation, a manufacturer of medical equipment. The cities of Bristol and New Haven are affected. The project will provide counseling, employability assessment, job search and relocation assistance, remedial education and on-the-job and classroom training.

The Idaho Department of Employment will receive $700,000 to assist up to 350 farmers and workers dislocated from mining, agricultural and wood products industries. A statewide program of job search assistance, on-the-job and classroom training, remedial education, placement services and limited relocation assistance will be complemented by a joint labor-management placement effort in cooperation with the Idaho AFL-CIO.

Louisiana's AFL-CIO Human Resources Development Institute will receive $500,000 to assist up to 450 workers dislocated from the petrochemical, construction, oil and gas exploration, and lumber and wood products industries. The areas affected are Baton Rouge, Lake Charles and New Orleans. Workers will receive on-the-job training, counseling, job search and placement assistance and other supportive services. A remedial education program will be offered through the Baton Rouge center.

-more-

Maine's Aroostook County Action Program will receive $287,500 to assist up to 125 displaced farmers and farmworkers. A family farm support center will provide assessment, training and job search skills. Emergency financial support services, child care, transportation and relocation assistance will also be available as needed.

North Carolina's Employment Security Commission will receive $800,000 to assist up to 1,350 workers dislocated from Olin Corporation, Clark Equipment, AT&T, McLean Trucking, and several textile, apparel and furniture producers. The areas affected are Transylvania County (Brevard), Roberson County (Lumberton), Burke County (Morganton), Richmond County (Rockingham) and Forsythe County (Winston-Salem). The project will provide vocational classroom and on-the-job training, remedial education, and job search, placement and relocation assistance. Emergency supportive aid will also be available.

The Ohio State Building and Construction Trades Training Foundation, Inc., will receive $750,000 to assist up to 400 unemployed building and construction workers. The statewide, union-sponsored project will provide advanced skill training using newly-developed techniques and materials.

The Rhode Island Department of Economic Development (Division of Job Development and Training) will receive $1,000,000 to assist up to 420 workers dislocated from hospital, communication, textile, fabricated rubber, glass, automotive, wiredrawing and insulation industries. The statewide project will provide assessment, customized, classroom or on-the-job training (at the work site), on-site Job Service and Unemployment Insurance services, layoff prevention, testing and counseling. In addition, a Dislocated Worker Resource Center will be established to provide a full range of services to the workers.

The Washington State Department of Employment Security will receive $1,000,000 to assist up to 500 workers dislocated from lumber and wood products industries in the western part of the state. The areas affected are Pacific, Wahkiakum, Cowlitz, Lewis, Skamania, Grays Harbor, Thurston, Snohomish, Mason, Jefferson, Skafit and Clallam counties. The project will provide remedial education, skills training, on-the-job training and relocation assistance. A variety of supportive services, including financial counseling, child care, transportation and temporary shelters will also be available.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous occupation or industry, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

7/14/86

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Week of July 14, 1986

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BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MOVES UP
IN JUNE

BROCK ANNOUNCES $3.4 MILLION FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS IN ILLINOIS

BROCK ANNOUNCES $55.5 MILLION FOR
MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER PROGRAMS

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Room 724
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Room 11003
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450 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-556-3423

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Region X.............Mike Shimizu
Room 3086
Federal Office Bldg.
909 First Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Week of July 14, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE MOVES UP IN JUNE

WASHINGTON -- The overall unemployment rate for blacks was 15.1 percent in June; it was 14.8 percent in May, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The unemployment rate for black adult women was unchanged over the month at 12.8 percent. However, for black adult men the jobless rate moved up from 12.7 to 13.3 percent. The unemployment rate for black youth was about unchanged over the month at 40.2 percent; it was 40.8 percent in May.

Unemployment declined slightly in June, returning to the April level.

The overall unemployment rate was 7.0 percent, and the rate for civilian workers was 7.1 percent.

The two employment series showed different over-the-month movements. Total civilian employment--as measured by the household survey--rose by 560,000 in June, after seasonal adjustment. By contrast, nonfarm payroll employment--as measured by the establishment survey--showed little change, even after accounting for about 170,000 workers who were on strike. Striking workers are not counted as employed in this survey because they are not on a payroll. (In the household survey, persons on strike are counted as employed--"with a job but not at work.")

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

Unemployment totaled 8.4 million persons in June, seasonally adjusted, not much different from the levels in the prior 4 months. The civilian worker unemployment rate was 7.1 percent, the same as in April, after rising marginally in May. Although the rate has fluctuated somewhat during the first half of 1986, the June figure is about in line with those that have prevailed for nearly a year.

Jobless rates among most worker groups--including adult women (6.4 percent), teenagers (19.1 percent), whites (6.1 percent), blacks (15.1 percent), and Hispanics (10.6 percent)--were little changed over the month. The unemployment rate for adult men edged down slightly to 6.2 percent, partly offsetting an increase in May.

The average duration of unemployment rose in June, as the number of unemployed for 27 weeks or more increased by 150,000, while the number out of work less than 5 weeks declined sharply. The median duration of unemployment was 7.3 weeks, and the mean duration was 15.2 weeks.

The total number of persons working part time for economic reasons--sometimes referred to as the partially unemployed--fell by 440,000 in June to 5.5 million. The decline was concentrated among persons who usually work full time but whose hours had been cut as a result of slack work.

more

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment rose by 560,000 in June to 109.7 million, seasonally adjusted. The bulk of the over-the-month increase occurred among adult women, as fewer than normal left the labor force at the onset of summer. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs rose to a record-high 60.8 percent.

The civilian labor force expanded by 450,000 to 118.1 million in June, after seasonal adjustment. Adult women accounted for nearly all of the growth. The civilian labor force participation rate edged up to 65.4 percent, the highest figure ever recorded.

Discouraged Workers (Household Survey Data)

At 1.1 million in the second quarter, the number of discouraged workers--persons who want to work but are not actively looking for jobs because they believe that they cannot find any--was about unchanged from both the first quarter and the year-earlier levels. Blacks continued to make up a disproportionately large share of all discouraged workers, 26 percent in the second quarter of 1986.

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment was about unchanged in June, even after accounting for the 170,000 striking workers who were off payrolls. Only the services industry experienced strong employment growth over the month.

In the service-producing sector, the strike of some 155,000 American Telephone and Telegraph workers, since settled, affected not only the communications industry within transportation and public utilities but also trade. Nevertheless, job declines in transportation and public utilities and wholesale trade reflected some weakness after adjustment for the strike effects. Services, on the other hand, exhibited a very sharp job gain over the month--145,000--and there was also an increase in finance.

In the goods-producing sector, employment in construction decreased by 30,000 on a seasonally adjusted basis to 4.9 million. Construction jobs were still 290,000 above the year-earlier level. Continuing its recent downtrend, employment in mining was off by 20,000, with most of the decline occurring in oil and gas extraction. Within manufacturing, 40,000 of the 55,000 decrease in employment was the result of labor-management disputes, particularly in primary metals and electrical equipment. The nonelectrical machinery component of manufacturing showed employment losses, partly reflecting continued declines in oil field machinery.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours for production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were unchanged at 34.8 hours in June, after seasonal adjustment. The manufacturing workweek edged down 0.1 hour to 40.6 hours; factory overtime also declined 0.1 hour to 3.3 hours.

more

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls declined 0.2 percent in June to 117.5 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. Pacing this drop were decreases of 1.7 percent in construction and 2.2 percent in mining. Declines in both manufacturing, and transportation and public utilities were attributable largely to strike activity.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly and weekly earnings were about unchanged, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings were $8.72 and weekly earnings were $305.20. Over the past year, average hourly and weekly earnings rose 18 cents and $4.59, respectively.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 169.4 (1977=100) in June, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.4 percent from May. For the 12 months ended in June, the increase was 2.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant puruchasing power, the HEI increased 1.4 percent during the 12-month period ended in May.

# # #

Week of July 14, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $3.4 MILLION FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS IN ILLINOIS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $3,375,000 in grants for dislocated workers, including blacks, in the state of Illinois. Workers in Decatur, Kankakee, Joliet, Rockford, southwest suburban Cook and 14 southernmost counties were displaced as a result of mass layoffs and plant closures.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide displaced workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce. At each of the selected sites, a dislocated worker center will be established to provide counseling, assessment and job search assistance, as well as classroom and/or on-the-job training where necessary to re-enter the labor market. Supportive services will include transportation, child care and emergency support.

Richland Community College (Decatur) will receive $750,000 to assist up to 840 workers displaced by mass layoffs at A.E. Staley Company and the Caterpillar Tractor Company. The areas affected are Macon, DeWitt, Piatt, Moultrie, Christain, Logan and Sangamon counties.

Kankakee Community College will receive $525,000 to assist up to 425 workers dislocated by the closure of the A.O. Smith Company, Valspar Corporation, Roper Corporation and other large plants in the area. The areas affected are Kankakee, Livingston and Iroquois counties.

The Rock Valley College Dislocated Worker Center in Rockford will receive $525,000 to assist up to 500 foundry workers displaced by the closure of National Lock, a division of Keystone Consolidated, Ex-Cell-O Manufacturing Systems and several smaller companies in the Rockford area.

The Triton College Dislocated Worker Center will receive $525,000 to assist up to 500 workers displaced due to the plant closures of Jewel Food production operations, AT&T Technologies (Skokie), Hawthorne Works (Western Electric) and the relocation of the TRW customer service division. The suburban Chicago area around Skokie is affected.

The John A. Logan Dislocated Worker Center will receive $525,000 to assist up to 500 workers displaced from General Radiator and Vernois, Incorporated, as well as smaller companies experiencing mass layoffs and plant closures. The areas affected are Massac, Pulaski, Alexander, Union, Pope, Johnson, Hardin, Wayne, Edwards, Saline, Wabash, White, Gallatin and Hamilton counties.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous occupation or industry, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of July 14, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $55.5 MILLION FOR MIGRANT/SEASONAL FARMWORKER PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced $55.5 million in Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) funds to provide employment and training assistance to thousands of migrant and seasonal farmworkers, including blacks.

Authorized under JTPA Title IV, Section 402, the funds are made available for the 1986 program year beginning July 1, 1986.

"We are committed to addressing the unique and specialized employment problems of migrant and seasonal farmworkers," Brock said in making the announcement. "JTPA can offer them the training they need to re-enter the labor market and improve their living conditions."

Secretary Brock said a total of 36 organizations are obtaining the grants on the basis of applications made last April. These organizations will be responsible for 53 employment and training programs nationwide and have previously operated programs in all States except Alaska, Rhode Island and the District of Columbia.

The Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers program is designed to combat chronic unemployment, underemployment and substandard living conditions among migrant and seasonal farmworkers and their families. Through grants to public and private non-profit institutions, economically disadvantaged farmworker families are furnished training and other employment-related services, including classroom and on-the-job training, work experience and supportive services.

(more)

U.S DEPARMENT OF LABOR - EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING ADMINISTRATION
OFFICE OF FINANCIAL CONTROL AND MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS
PY 1986 MSFW ALLOTMENT TO STATES
07-01-86

Alabama	$ 774,193
Alaska	0
Arizona	1,001,566
Arkansas	1,140,959
California	7,881,007
Colorado	705,840
Connecticut	253,520
Delaware	120,000
District of Columbia	0
Florida	3,419,487
Georgia	1,515,670
Hawaii	241,161
Idaho	796,276
Illinois	1,059,592
Indiana	806,617
Iowa	1,456,693
Kansas	894,709
Kentucky	1,342,394
Louisiana	781,203
Maine	322,950
Maryland	274,928
Massachusetts	281,121
Michigan	835,651
Minnesota	1,379,565
Mississippi	1,437,736
Missouri	1,080,785
Montana	661,908
Nebraska	1,077,714
Nevada	$ 132,732
New Hampshire	120,000
New Jersey	316,914
New Mexico	463,978
New York	1,373,941
North Carolina	2,825,698
North Dakota	646,628
Ohio	907,535
Oklahoma	599,973
Oregon	831,679
Pennsylvania	1,160,237
Rhode Island	0
South Carolina	1,049,588
South Dakota	688,665
Tennessee	941,977
Texas	4,521,771
Utah	215,105
Vermont	211,483
Virginia	947,703
Washington	1,415,186
West Virginia	215,573
Wisconsin	1,338,296
Wyoming	196,995
Puerto Rico	2,870,098
NATIONAL TOTAL	$55,535,000

# # #

WEEK OF JULY 14, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Disabled women represented 8.5 percent of all working age women (ages 16 to 64) in 1981 or slightly more than 1 out of every 12 women in this age group, according to a fact sheet on working women issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In 1981, the average disabled woman was not employed, nor was she looking for work, and her total 1980 annual income was less than $3,500, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Disabled women working full time earned only 56 percent as much as disabled men with full time jobs in 1980, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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7/21/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of July 21, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

BROCK AWARDS EXEMPLARY FEDERAL CONTRACTORS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INITIATIVES

BROCK HAILS CHOICE OF DENNIS TO HEAD WOMEN'S BUREAU

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.3 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 5 STATES

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JUNE 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Public Library, Newark, N. J.

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REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

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Region I.........John M. Chavez
Room 1700
JFK Federal Bldg.
Boston, MA 02203
617-223-6767

Connecticut
Maine
Massachusetts
New Hampshire
Rhode Island
Vermont

Region II........Chester Fultz
Room 3580
1515 Broadway
New York, NY 10036
212-944-3435

New Jersey
New York
Puerto Rico
Virgin Islands

Region III.......John P. Hord
Room 2460
3535 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19104
215-596-1139

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Maryland
Pennsylvania
Virginia
West Virginia

Region IV........ Dan Fuqua
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Atlanta, GA 30367
404-347-4495

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Georgia
Mississippi
North Carolina
South Carolina
Tennessee
Kentucky

Region V.........John D. Mellott
Room 3192
230 S. Dearborn Street
Chicago, IL 60604
312-353-6976

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Indiana
Michigan
Minnesota
Ohio
Wisconsin

Region VI............Sherrie Moran
Room 724
555 Griffin St.
Dallas, TX 75202
214-767-4776

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Louisiana
New Mexico
Oklahoma
Texas

Region VII...........Patrick A. Hand
Room 2509
Federal Office Bldg.
911 Walnut St.
Kansas City, MO 64106
816-374-5481

Iowa
Kansas
Missouri
Nebraska

Region VIII..........Ernest E. Sanchez
Room 1468
Federal Bldg.
1961 Stout St.
Denver, CO 80294
303-844-4235

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Montana
North Dakota
South Dakota
Utah

Region IX............Joe B. Kirkbride
Room 11003
Federal Bldg.
450 Golden Gate Ave.
San Francisco, CA 94102
415-556-3423

Arizona
California
Hawaii
Nevada

Region X.............Mike Shimizu
Room 3086
Federal Office Bldg.
909 First Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620

Alaska
Idaho
Oregon
Washington

Week of July 21, 1986

BROCK AWARDS EXEMPLARY FEDERAL CONTRACTORS FOR AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INITIATIVES

WASHINGTON -- Labor Secretary William E. Brock presented 11 federal government contractors with Exemplary Voluntary Effort (EVE) awards for their innovative affirmative action programs.

"These firms are to be commended for their exemplary efforts to come up with innovative ways to assure equality in their diverse workplaces," Secretary Brock said. "Voluntary efforts such as these are crucial if we are to assure that every American be afforded full opportunity to enjoy the benefits of a productive life."

The awards, initiated in 1983 by the Labor Department's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs, recognize companies which have made equal employment efforts above and beyond that required by law to employ women, minorities, the handicapped and disabled veterans. Such laws are enforced by OFCCP.

The nine recipients of EVE corporate awards are:

*BankAmerica Corporation, San Francisco:
For a system to identify women for career growth, for advancement into higher executive and management positions; for establishing an Economic Opportunity Task Force to address women's issues and target promotion of women to senior vice president.

*Digital Equipment Corporation, Maynard, Mass.:
For supporting 80 student scholarships, funding 17 nationwide scholarships for women engineering and business students, equipment grants of more than $100,000 to the National Urban League and more than $250,000 in equipment to the University of Lowell's minority mentoring program. It also located its seventh manufacturing plant in inner city Springfield and participates in a drop-out prevention plan for disaffected youth.

*General Mills, Inc., Minneapolis:
Developed a Disability Awareness Council for all its facilities to educate its employees to problems and issues pertaining to the handicapped, initiated an accessibility review and implemented accommodations. It actively participates in outreach and recreational programs for the handicapped.

*Jenkins and Boller Company, Inc., Waukegan, Ill.:
For utilizing minorities and women in the construction industry and for supporting minority and female-owned businesses. This small contractor worked with local Urban Leagues to recruit and hire apprentices and established a file of certified businesses to use as subcontractors. It published its own booklet on women in construction designed to remove stereotypes and help acceptance of women in trades.

-more-

*Johnson & Johnson, New Brunswick, N.J.:
In addition to its recruitment and training programs, it has done an outstanding job in recruiting and training of minorities and women for nontraditional jobs and high-level positions. It promotes minorities in scientific fields and assists them in obtaining advanced degrees with stipends. Mentoring training assists new minority professionals and managers.

*NCNB-Bankers Trust of South Carolina, Columbia, S.C.:
For notable efforts to improve training and job opportunities for students and employees, minorities and women, for providing speakers for inner city schools, for helping undergraduates with financial costs and internships at four colleges, and for operating summer youth programs leading to job opportunities.

*Pratt & Whitney, United Technologies Corporation, East Hartford, Conn.:
For an agreement with the Connecticut State Department of Education to provide a diploma with training and tutoring at the company to enable employees to compete for better jobs, and for one-on-one tutoring in literacy skills. It has provided work for Sheltered Workshops and supplied $25 million in business to minority and small business concerns; it provided space and leased a building for evaluation, testing and job placement services for the handicapped.

*Raytheon Company, Lexington, Mass.:
For participating in the Massachusetts pre-engineering program for minority students on the board of directors, financial contributions and summer internships, for sponsoring memberships in professional engineering societies for minorities and women and for nominating two black achievers annually for demonstrated excellence.

*R & S Construction Company, Rapid City, S.D.:
For dispelling stereotypes and myths and promoting understanding and employment of native Americans among businesses and community organizations, promoting cultural awareness through visits to the Oglala Sioux Tribe reservation, and sponsoring carpentry training programs at the reservation, resulting in the hiring of carpenters, painters and supervisors. Women and minority business entrepreneurs have been hired as subcontractors, and management has been active in vocational education and civic leadership.

The two recipients of EVE establishment awards are:

*Philip Morris, U.S.A., Louisville, Ky. plant:
For an educational refund program which gives total tuition reimbursement to employees completing accredited courses and has provided management opportunities for minorities and women. It has encouraged women to bid into apprenticeship positions through roundtable discussions and selected black achievers annually to serve as role models for minority youth. By contributions to community organizations, it has extended recruiting among businesses and to three minority educational institutions.

-more-

*Warner-Lambert Company, Rockford, Ill. plant, American Chicle Division: For increasing the number of women and minorities, despite its high area unemployment rate, through intensive recruiting, training and advancement and its close alliance with the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People through which it has developed increased numbers of applicants and minority employees. Through its educational encouragement program and its nontraditional job programs, it has motivated managers and supervisors to EEO commitment.

Establishment awards are given to one location of a multi-facility organization. Corporate awards represent headquarters and all facilities of the organization and its encompassing policies.

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs enforces laws for equal employment opportunity and affirmative action by federal contractors for minorities, women, handicapped persons and disabled veterans. Joseph N. Cooper is director of OFCCP, which is a program of the Employment Standards Administration.

# # #

WEEK OF JULY 21, 1986

BROCK HAILS CHOICE OF DENNIS TO HEAD WOMEN'S BUREAU

WASHINGTON -- President Reagan's selection of Shirley M. Dennis to head the Women's Bureau will bring "exciting, experienced leadership to an agency that plays a key role in dealing with the increasingly important issue of work and family relationships," Secretary of Labor William E. Brock said.

"The tremendous surge of women into the labor force is one of the most significant changes in our society over the past 20 years," Brock said. "Shirley Dennis' knowledge of family and community issues and her experience in managing a major state agency with community development responsibilities will be a great asset in directing the vital work of the Women's Bureau. She will be a welcome addition to the department's executive staff."

Dennis, who is black, has been Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs since 1980. The agency, with a staff of more than 200 and a budget in excess of $180 million, serves as a direct link between the Pennsylvania state government and more than 2,600 local governments. Its programs include local government services, housing and development, community planning, human resources, recreation, and conservation.

As head of the Community Affairs Department, Dennis is secretary of the Pennsylvania Industrial Development Authority and serves on the Governor's Economic Development Committee and Human Resources Committee. Initiatives carried out under her direction have included the Pennsylvania Enterprise Zone Program, a statewide housing policy and weatherization of over 200,000 homes.

Dennis joined the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs in 1979, serving first as executive deputy secretary and then as acting secretary before being named to head the agency in April 1980.

From 1971 to 1979 Dennis was managing director of the Housing Association of Delaware Valley, a United Way supported housing research and advocacy agency in Philadelphia. Before that she served as housing director for the Philadelphia Urban League and worked as an equal opportunity specialist for the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority.

Dennis is chairperson of the National Leadership Conference of Women Executives in State Government and has served on the National Council for a Black Economic Agenda and the Task Force on Youth and Minority Employment.

Dennis, who has a degree in business administration from Temple University, is married and has three children.

Her nomination as Women's Bureau director is subject to Senate confirmation.

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Week of July 21, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.3 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 5 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $2,284,271 in grants for black and other dislocated workers in Arizona, Iowa, Nebraska, New York and Wisconsin who are displaced due to mass layoffs, plant closures and adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act, and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"The most important mechanism for reemployment is training," Secretary Brock stated. "JTPA provides displaced workers with new skills to meet the challenges of today's job market."

The Arizona Department of Employment Security will receive $600,000 to assist up to 230 copper workers dislocated as a result of the closure of the Phelps Dodge Corporation plant in Douglas. The areas affected are the counties of Cochise, Gila, Greenlee, Graham, Pinal, and rural portions of Pima county. Workers will receive assessment, career counseling and referral to training through a network of satellite dislocated worker assistance centers. Where necessary, housing, food assistance and referral to community services will be provided. Commuting and relocation assistance will also be available.

Indian Hills Community College in Iowa will receive $122,500 to assist up to 100 farmers and dislocated workers in farm-related businesses. The areas affected are Appanoose, Lucas, Wapello, Davis, Mahaska, Wayne, Jefferson, Monroe, Keokuk and Van Buren counties. Outreach efforts, a major component of this project, will be coordinated through a hotline telephone service, and local farm self-help groups. Participants will attend a career change workshop to acquire information on the area job market and the dislocated worker program. In addition, assessment, pre-employment training, remedial, vocational classroom and on-the-job training, and supportive services will be provided.

The Greater Nebraska Service Delivery Area will receive $184,071 to assist up to 125 dislocated workers from rural areas. Columbus, and the surrounding counties of Boone, Butler, Colpax, Nance and Platte are affected. As part of innovative economic development efforts, dislocated workers will receive on-the-job training for a new employer who will open a plant in the Columbus area.

The New York City Department of Employment will receive $1,177,700 to assist up to 860 dislocated blue collar workers from unskilled and semi-skilled manufacturing production jobs throughout the city of New York. The project will provide several retraining programs, each with hiring commitments from employers, and on-the-job and classroom training in the printing and publishing, food preparation and protective services industries.

-more-

Wisconsin's Blackhawk Technical Institute will receive $200,000 to assist up to 130 workers dislocated as a result of mass layoffs at the Parker Pen Company in Janesville (Rock County). All participants will receive comprehensive employment and training services including job clubs, job search assistance counseling, assessment, vocational classroom and on-the-job training. Some classroom training will be in non-traditional occupations for women. Supportive services will include transportation, day care and relocation assistance.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant of facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of July 21, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--JUNE 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods showed no change on a seasonally adjusted basis from May to June, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had declined rapidly during the first 4 months of 1986 before turning up somewhat in May.

The index for intermediate goods also was unchanged in June, following five consecutive monthly decreases. Prices received by producers of crude goods fell 1.1 percent, the sixth decline in the last 7 months.

Among finished goods, the index for energy goods moved down modestly in June, after much more sizable decreases during the first 4 months of 1986 and a moderate upturn in May. Consumer food prices were unchanged in June, following small rises in March and April and a larger advance in May. The index for finished goods other than foods and energy also was unchanged over the month, continuing the recent trend of little or no change in this index.

In the first half of 1986, prices received by domestic producers of goods at all stages of processing declined at rates not experienced since 1949. From December 1985 to June 1986, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 6.5 percent, prices for intermediate goods decreased at an annual rate of 8.3 percent after seasonal adjustment, and the crude materials index moved down at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 20.9 percent. Sharply lower prices for crude oil and refined petroleum products were the overwhelming influence behind these first-half index movements. Decreases in food-related prices were an important factor within the Crude Materials Price Index, but were smaller and less significant among intermediate and finished goods. The rate of inflation for nonfood, nonenergy goods generally was moderate at the crude and the finished levels, while the index for such items within the intermediate stage of processing category actually declined.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods remained virtually unchanged in June at 288.9 (1967=100). From June 1985 to June 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index fell 1.7 percent. During the same 12-month period, consumer food prices climbed 2.4 percent, the index for finished energy goods decreased 28.3 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.2 percent, and the capital equipment index moved up 1.8 percent. The index for intermediate goods declined 3.8 percent over the 12 months ended in June 1986, while crude material prices fell 10.0 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF JULY 21, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

A work-disabled person is defined as one under age 65 who has a physical or mental condition that prevents her or him from working or limits the amount of work that can be done, or who is retired because of ill health, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In 1981, the average disabled woman was not employed, nor was she looking for work, and her total 1980 annual income was less than $3,500. The average age for a work-disabled woman was 51; for a nondisabled woman it was 33, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In 1981, disabled women who were employed were twice as likely as nondisabled women to be self-employed. One in every 9 (10.8 percent) employed disabled women were self-employed, compared with just over 1 in every 20 working women with no disabilities, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Disabled women represented 8.5 percent of all working age women (ages 16 to 64) in 1981 or slightly more than 1 out of every 12 women in this age group, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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7/28/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of July 28, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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NEW BLACK WAGE-HOUR ADMINISTRATOR
HAS IDEAS FOR GETTING THE JOB DONE

PUBLIC MEETING IN SPARTANBURG, S.C. TO FOCUS
ON FARMWORKER PROGRAMS

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Region	States	Director and address
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Region II	New Jersey New York Puerto Rico Virgin Islands	Chester Fultz Room 3580 1515 Broadway New York, NY 10036 212-944-3435
Region III	Delaware District of Columbia Maryland Pennsylvania Virginia West Virginia	John P. Hord Room 2460 3535 Market Street Philadelphia, PA 19104 215-596-1139
Region IV	Alabama Florida Georgia Mississippi North Carolina South Carolina Tennessee Kentucky	Dan Fuqua Room 317 1371 Peachtree St., N.E. Atlanta, GA 30367 404-347-4495
Region V	Illinois Indiana Michigan Minnesota Ohio Wisconsin	John D. Mellott Room 3192 230 S. Dearborn Street Chicago, IL 60604 312-353-6976
Region VI	Arkansas Louisiana New Mexico Oklahoma Texas	Sherrie Moran Room 724 555 Griffin St. Dallas, TX 75202 214-767-4776
Region VII	Iowa Kansas Missouri Nebraska	Patrick A. Hand Room 2509 Federal Office Bldg. 911 Walnut St. Kansas City, MO 64106 816-374-5481
Region VIII	Colorado Montana North Dakota South Dakota Utah	Ernest E. Sanchez Room 1468 Federal Bldg. 1961 Stout St. Denver, CO 80294 303-844-4235
Region IX	Arizona California Hawaii Nevada	Joe B. Kirkbride Room 11003 Federal Bldg. 450 Golden Gate Ave. San Francisco, CA 94102 415-556-3423
Region X	Alaska Idaho Oregon Washington	Mike Shimizu Room 3086 Federal Office Bldg. 909 First Ave. Seattle, WA 98174 206-442-7620

Week of July 28, 1986

NEW BLACK WAGE-HOUR ADMINISTRATOR HAS IDEAS FOR GETTING THE JOB DONE

WASHINGTON -- Paula V. Smith has one of the best views in Washington of the U.S. Capitol, but she has very little time to enjoy it.

Smith recently became the new administrator of the wage and hour division of the Employment Standards Administration in the U.S. Labor Department. She was nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate.

Smith, the former head of the Missouri state Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, with a staff of over 1,400 employees nationwide and a budget of $71 million, is now responsible for administering standards and provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) which covers 73 million American workers.

Smith says that her basic concern is to help people, while fostering the growth of the free enterprise system.

"I'm very high on people issues," she says, "and I'm very cognizant of the needs of wage earners and the rights of employers."

Under the FLSA, the wage and hour division sets minimum wage, overtime pay, child labor and recordkeeping standards for 63 million private sector employees, 7.7 million state and local government employees and 2.3 million federal government employees. It also enforces the Service Contract Act, the Davis-Bacon Act and the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act.

Smith sees her new job as a "challenge," especially when it comes to "doing an effective job with short budgets and managing with less."

Among her priorities, Smith plans to conduct intensive inspections of farm labor camps.

"I want to gain knowledge of the conditions under which compliance officers work and to gain a greater understanding of my responsibility in administering the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Workers Protection Act," Smith said.

In addition, Smith says she will "place emphasis on training as a vehicle to productivity improvements," adding that "I'll be big on morale improvement as well."

Smith brings to her new job 20 years of private sector experience and 5 years of serving in the cabinets of two governors as the director of the Missouri State Department of Labor and Industrial Relations, Smith is well prepared to handle the responsibilities of her new job.

"I feel very fortunate to have been selected as the wage hour administrator," she said.

"I consider that to be a real challenge in terms of the size of the responsibility, and I'll just give it my best shot."

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Week of 28, 1986

PUBLIC MEETING IN SPARTANBURG, S.C. TO FOCUS ON FARMWORKER PROGRAMS

WASHINGTON -- The U.S. Department of Labor will conduct a public meeting in Spartanburg, S.C., Tuesday, Aug. 12, 1986, to determine ways in which the department can be more responsive in administering laws affecting migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

To be held at Spartanburg Technical College -- L.R.C. Auditorium, Tracy Gaines Center, the meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The session will provide an opportunity for federal and state officials to receive comments about the effectiveness of Labor Department programs.

Three agencies of the U.S. Labor Department administer laws and programs related to farmworkers, coordinating their efforts to avoid duplication. Regional officials of these agencies will be on hand to discuss their particular responsibilities.

The Department's Employment Standards Administration enforces the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act, which requires agricultural employers, agricultural associations, and farm labor contractors to observe certain labor standards when employing migrant and seasonal farmworkers, unless exemptions apply.

This agency also administers the Fair Labor Standards Act, which, in general, mandates that the minimum wage be paid agricultural employees working for an employer who used more than 500 man-days of farm labor in any quarter of the preceding calendar year.

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) works to assure safe and healthful working conditions for agricultural, as well as industrial, employees. Four Southeastern states (Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee), have OSHA-approved state plans and enforce job safety and health regulations at the state level.

Training, placement services and unemployment compensation are provided by the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration through the federal-state Employment Security system and Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) programs.

All three agencies share responsibility for enforcing regulations dealing with migrant housing.

- more -

Representatives of the South Carolina Department of Labor will be on hand at the meeting to explain the state's role in administering the employment service, unemployment insurance and safety and health programs affecting farmworkers.

The meeting will be open to workers, growers, farm labor contractors, interest groups and others wishing to comment on Labor Department services to migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

Further information can be obtained by contacting the Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division office at Room 1072, Strom Thurmond Federal Building, 1835 Assembly Street, Columbia, S.C., 29201; telephone - (803) 765-5981.

# # #

WEEK OF JULY 28, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Disabled women represented 8.5 percent of all working age women (ages 16 to 64) in 1981 or slightly more than 1 out of every 12 women in this age group, according to a fact sheet published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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8/4/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
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Washington, D.C.
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Week of August 4,

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REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

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206-442-7620

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Week of August 4, 1986

MEDIAN WEEKLY EARNINGS OF BLACKS MOVE UP IN SECOND QUARTER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Median weekly earnings of black full-time wage and salary workers were $294 in the second quarter of 1986, a $10 increase over the year, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

In contrast, median weekly earnings of white workers ($368) continued to outpace those of blacks and Hispanics ($278).

During the second quarter of 1986, median weekly earnings for black men were $322, compared with $427 for whites and $303 for Hispanics.

Median weekly earnings for black women were $267, compared with $293 for whites and $243 for Hispanics.

Median weekly earnings of the nation's 78.5 million full-time wage and salary workers were $358 in the second quarter of 1986, a 3.2 percent increase over the year.

Median earnings for women, at $290, were 70 percent of the male median, a proportion that generally has been trending upward. In early 1979, when the quarterly weekly earnings series began, the ratio was 62 percent.

Data on usual weekly earnings are collected as part of the Current Population Survey, a nationwide sample survey of households in which respondents are asked how much each wage and salary worker usually earns per week.

Other highlights of the second-quarter data are:

-- Men's earnings were highest for those 45 to 54 years old ($504), whereas women's earnings peaked in the 35 to 44 age group ($317). The ratio of earnings between men and women are closest to 100 percent for teenagers (92 percent) and furthest among those aged 45 to 64 (61 percent).

-- Among the major occupational groups, those employed in executive, administrative and managerial jobs reported the highest weekly earnings ($515), followed by professional specialty workers ($496). Men employed in the broad managerial and professional specialty occupations had median earnings of $605; for women, the median was $415.

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Week of August 4, 1986

PILOT TRAINING PROGRAM TO FOCUS ON BLACK, OTHER WOMEN VETERANS IN WASHINGTON STATE

WASHINGTON -- In response to the job and training needs of the increasing number of female veterans in the country, the U.S. Department of Labor is awarding a $100,000 grant to the Everett Job Service of Washington State's Employment Security Department to implement a pilot program.

Female veterans, including blacks, will be trained for the specific labor market needs of the Snohomish County area, including the city of Everett. The Employment Service office in that city has already demonstrated success in recruiting, training and placing women veterans.

The program is specifically designed to offer participants both individual and group training as a means of promoting long-term, effective job placements for women veterans.

The Women Veterans Placement Program is a joint undertaking of two Labor Department agencies, the Women's Bureau which is providing $25,000, and the Veterans' Employment and Training Service which is offering $75,000 in Job Training Partnership Act money. The Women's Bureau will supervise the project and provide technical assistance.

Acting Women's Bureau Director Jill Houghton Emery and Assistant Secretary of Labor for Veterans' Employment Training Donald Shasteen hailed the project as a creative response to women veterans' employment needs. The project is expected to provide a model for similar programs in other parts of the country.

Nationwide, women veterans numbered 1.2 million in September 1985 and made up 4.2 percent of the 27.8 million veterans in civilian life. Although women have made gains in the military and the labor force, studies have shown that male veterans are more likely to be employed than female veterans and that female veterans generally make less money and are less likely to have full-time positions than their male counterparts.

Of the 617,422 Washington State veterans identified by the 1980 U.S. Census, 27,290 are women and 2,072 live in Snohomish County.

Enrollment is already underway for the 40 female veterans expected to participate in the program. All participants will be underemployed or unemployed; personal support service will be provided for them on a case-by-case basis.

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Following a 10-week course in life choice and career planning, the women veterans will be offered occupational training in the following areas; automotive maintenance and auto parts sales, fashion merchandising, shipping and receiving, intensive secretarial skills, precision woodworking and industrial aircraft orientation. Length of training ranges from eight to 44 weeks, based on occupational requirements.

Training will be provided through the Everett Community College and the Washington State Employment Security Department and will be coordinated with the Private Industry Council of Snohomish County.

The Women's Bureau promotes employment opportunities for women in the labor force; the Veterans' Employment and Training Service is concerned with the job and training needs of U.S. veterans of all wars.

Week of August 4, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--June 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.5 percent before seasonal adjustment in June to a level of 327.9 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in June, the CPI-U has increased 1.7 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.5 percent in June prior to seasonal adjustment. The June 1986 CPI-W level of 323.0 (1967=100) was 1.3 percent higher than the index in June 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)-- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.5 percent in June. This compares with a 0.2 percent increase in May and declines in each of the 3 preceding months. Excluding energy, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in June, the same as in May. Energy prices, which were responsible for the earlier declines, rose 2.3 percent in June, following a slight advance in May, and accounted for about half of the June advance in the overall CPI-U. Substantial increases in prices for gasoline, electricity, and natural gas were only partially offset by a further decline in fuel oil prices.

During the first 6 months of 1986, the CPI-U declined at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 0.2 percent. This decrease represents the first time that the index has declined over the first half of the year since 1955. Reflecting the sharp drop in crude oil prices, the index for energy commodities—fuel oil, coal, bottled gas, and motor fuels—declined at an annual rate of 40.2 percent in the first half of 1986. Prices for used cars and grocery store foods also declined in the first half. On the other hand, shelter costs continued to advance at an annual rate of about 5 percent. The index for all items excluding food, shelter, energy, and used cars increased at an annual rate of 4 percent during the first 6 months. Within this all other items group, however, price movements for commodities and for services continue to diverge. Price increases in the goods sector, continued to moderate, but prices for services, in particular medical care, have accelerated.
The annual rates for these groups during the last several years and the first half of 1986 are shown below.

NOTE: The Bureau of Labor Statistics currently is completing a major revision of the Consumer Price Index. Beginning with release of the CPI for January 1987 on February 27, 1987, the Bureau will introduce revised versions of the current CPI's both for All Urban Consumers and for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers. The revised CPI's will reflect more current population and spending patterns and numerous technical enhancements.

# # #

Week of August 4, 1986

REAL EARNINGS OF JUNE 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.3 percent from May to June after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics. This decrease stemmed from a 0.5 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index as measured by the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W), which was partially offset by a 0.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings. Average weekly hours were unchanged over the month.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.5 percent between June of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.1 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.3 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.2 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $305.20 in June 1986, compared with $300.61 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power decreased 0.1 percent between May and June. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.1 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of August 4, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

About 7,100 individuals attended courses at the OSHA Training Institute at Des Plaines, ILL. (a Chicago suburb) during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the Labor Department's annual report. Participants included personnel from the Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration, state governments, other federal agencies and the private sector.

# # #

The Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) awarded $5.6 million in fiscal year 1985 to approximately 100 nonprofit groups providing a variety of job safety and health services. The grants were awarded under OSHA's New Directions grants program to support training and education projects addressing serious problems in construction, manufacturing, and other high hazard occupational and industrial sectors.

# # #

The New Directions grants program of the U.S. Labor Department's Occupational Safety and Health Administration is designed to provide an organization with funds needed to develop its staff, skills and services as a competent, self-sufficient center for job safety and health.

# # #

The U.S. Labor Department's Dislocated Worker Program is an effort to aid experienced workers who find themselves displaced due to plant closings, technological changes, foreign competition or other major economic changes. The program is funded under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act, according to the Labor Department's annual report for the 1985 fiscal year.

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Week of August 11, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of August 11, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE FALLS IN JULY

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was 14.0 percent in July, down from 15.1 percent in June, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

For black adult men the unemployment rate was 12.7 percent; it was 13.3 percent a month earlier. The jobless rate for black adult women moved down from 12.8 to 11.9 percent over the month.

The jobless rate for black youth ages 16 to 19 edged down from 40.2 percent in June to 38.6 percent in July.

The nation's overall unemployment rate was 6.8 percent, down from 7.0 percent in June, while the unemployment rate for civilian workers decreased from 7.1 to 6.9 percent.

Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--after rising sharply in June, increased by 210,000 in July to 109.9 million. Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--rose by 390,000; about 150,000 of this change reflected the return to work of persons on strike in June.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons declined by 250,000 in July to 8.2 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker unemployment rate fell to 6.9 percent, from 7.1 percent in June and 7.3 percent in May. Jobless rates declined over the month among adult women (to 6.1 percent), blacks (14.0 percent), and teenagers (17.5 percent), while rates for adult men (6.2 percent), whites (6.0 percent), and Hispanics (10.5 percent) showed little or no change.

The number of workers unemployed between 5 and 14 weeks fell by 220,000 in July. Smaller changes in the other duration categories left the average (mean) and median lengths of an unemployment spell little changed at 15.0 and 7.1 weeks, respectively.

The number of unemployed persons on layoff remained unchanged in July, while the number of other job losers (those who do not expect recall) declined substantially.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons--sometimes referred to as the partially unemployed--was down markedly since May. The July decline occurred among persons who could not find full-time work, while the drop in June took place largely among those whose hours had been cut back due to slack work.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment rose to 109.9 million in July, seasonally adjusted. As in June, most of the over-the-month increase occurred among adult women. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs held steady at the June record of 60.8 percent. The number of nonfarm self-employed workers increased by 275,000 in July, continuing increases that have totaled one-half million since April.

The civilian labor force was unchanged at 118.1 million in July after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force has risen by 2.4 million (after adjusting for the introduction of revisions in estimating growth in the population that took place in January).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls rose by 390,000 in July to 100.3 million, after seasonal adjustment. About 150,000 of this gain, however, resulted from workers returning to their jobs following strike settlements. As has often been the case this year, the service-producing sector and construction provided all of the growth in employment.

In the goods-producing sector, gains in construction were countered by a weakness in manufacturing employment. After declining in June, construction employment rebounded in July, climbing by 55,000. Employment in manufacturing, down by 25,000 over the month, would have declined considerably more but for the return of striking workers, most of whom were in electrical and electronic equipment. Elsewhere in manufacturing, changes were small but generally on the downside. Mining and its oil and gas extraction component were little changed, in marked contrast to the sharp losses over the prior 5 months.

Employment in the service-producing sector rose by 245,000, after adjusting for returned strikers. Over the month, the largest job gain was in services--125,000. Finance, insurance, and real estate continued to exhibit strength with an employment increase of 35,000, and retail trade rose by 70,000, although a small part of that increase was the result of strikers returning to work. Employment in both transportation and public utilities and the durable goods component of wholesale trade was little changed, after adjusting for strike returns, and there was weakness in the nondurable goods component of wholesale trade.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.6 in July, down 0.1 hour after seasonal adjustment. Weekly and overtime hours in manufacturing were unchanged at 40.6 and 3.4 hours, respectively.

-more-

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The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls returned to the May level of 117.7 (1977=100), an over-the-month increase of 0.3 percent, after seasonal adjustment. Most of the industries were simply recouping losses experienced in the previous month.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings declined by 0.2 percent in July and weekly earnings were down 0.5 percent, after adjusting for seasonality. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings edged down 1 cent to $8.70, and average weekly earnings declined by 35 cents to $303.63. Over the past year, average hourly earnings rose 18 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $4.58.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 169.0 (1977=100) in July, seasonally adjusted, a decrease of 0.1 percent from June. For the 12 months ended in July, the increase was 2.4 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.0 percent during the 12-month period ended in June.

# # #

Week of August 11, 1986

SEMERAD ANNOUNCES MAJOR STUDY OF JOB TRAINING PARTNERSHIP ACT

WASHINGTON -- Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad has announced plans to evaluate the effectiveness of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA). Two contracts have been awarded to the Manpower Development Research Corporation (MDRC) of New York City and Abt Associates, Inc. of Cambridge, Mass. to conduct the study.

"Job training programs are a critical investment in the quality of this nation's workforce," Semerad said. "Not only do we need to ensure that our investment is a sound one, but also that participants in the programs are receiving the appropriate training that enables them to become productive workers."

As part of a new Labor Department initiative, the evaluation will focus on the effectiveness of three principle JTPA activities -- on-the-job training, classroom vocational training and job search assistance. There will be a series of field experiments in 20 local areas selected as representative of the JTPA system nationwide. Beginning in the summer of 1987, more than 30,000 individuals will be monitored over the course of the evaluation, with comparisons made between individuals receiving and not receiving services.

Areas will be chosen based on their geographic location, labor market and the demographics of their JTPA-eligible population. Prospective sites will be contacted as the planning phase of the study begins.

MDRC will implement the experiments in the 20 sites. Abt will conduct the surveys and the subsequent analyses of the results. The National Governor's Association, the National Association of Counties and the National Alliance of Business will assist MDRC in implementing the project.

# # #

Week of August 11, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT'S EUNICE THOMAS ELECTED PRESIDENT OF ZETA PHI BETA

WASHINGTON -- Eunice S. Thomas, a special assistant to Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, was elected national president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority at its annual convention held last month in Anaheim, Ca.

Thomas, who has been a member of the sorority for 20 years, campaigned to increase the number of community outreach projects which Zeta Phi Beta undertakes, especially those for young women and men. She particularly emphasized such areas as literacy and jobs training, family and life planning, and other programs for those who "need not a hand-out but a helping hand."

Thomas cautioned her "sorors," or sorority sisters, "There is much to do, and the need is great, but we cannot allow ourselves the luxury of becoming discouraged."

She called for larger membership, more local chapters and new programs to meet the goal of increased service.

Zeta Phi Beta, which was organized at Howard University in 1920, has 65,000 active members nationwide; Thomas promised to increase that number by 50 percent.

In addition to Zeta Phi Beta, Thomas has been active in the Georgia Heart Association and the National March of Dimes. She served as national director of the Stork's Nest Project, a joint undertaking of the sorority and the National March of Dimes to promote prenatal and newborn health care.

She also served in Zeta's largest region for eight years as its Southeastern regional director, and she was chairman of all regional directors of the sorority.

Born in Orlando, Fla., Thomas was raised in Georgia and Ohio. She received her bachelor's degree from Hampton University, Hampton, Va., and Fort Valley State College, Fort Valley, Ga. In addition to earning a master of education degree from the University of Toledo in Ohio, Thomas attended Western Reserve University in Cleveland and entered the doctoral program at the University of Oklahoma. She also studied at the George Peabody College for Teachers in Nashville.

An educator for many years, Thomas filled a variety of posts as a teacher, counselor, special education instructor, adult education coordinator and assistant high school principal in Georgia.

Thomas is actively involved in a wide range of programs at the U.S. Department of Labor but has particular responsibility for minority and women's affairs.

(more)

She was appointed by President Reagan to serve on the National Advisory Council on Women's Educational Programs (1981-1985) and chaired the council's committee on civil rights.

She has been active in a wide range of political activities in Georgia, including serving as vice chairman of the Muscogee County Republican Party and president of the Republican Women's Club in Columbus, Ga. She has been active in the Georgia Black Republican Council, the Georgia Federation of Republican Women and the Southern Republican Leadership Conference.

Her other affiliations and associations include the Muscogee County Community Relations Commission in Columbus, Ga.; League of Women Voters; National Urban League and Columbus Metro Urban League; National Council of Negro Women and the NAACP. She is also the recipient of numerous awards.

Thomas is married to James N. Thomas, a retired U.S. Army officer who is now a businessman. They reside in Columbus, Ga., and Washington, D.C.

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Week of August 11, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is operated on the basis of a program year, beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the following year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act was enacted into law in October 1982 and became fully operational in October 1983, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985. The law is administered by the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act is sharply focused on training with a legislatively mandated requirement that at least 70 percent of all funds be used for this purpose, according to the U.S.Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

Data for the period July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985, indicate that of new participants entering Job Training Partnership Act programs, 94 percent were economically disadvantaged, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

8/18/86

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Week of August 18, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BROCK LAUNCHES SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR DISADVANTAGED TEENS

BLACK WOMAN NOMINATED FOR JOB CORPS HALL OF FAME

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Week of August 18, 1986

BROCK LAUNCHES SUMMER ENRICHMENT PROGRAM FOR DISADVANTAGED TEENS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has launched a four-week summer enrichment program for 40 District of Columbia disadvantaged junior high school students.

In cooperation with the D.C. Public School system, the Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) designed the pilot program to encourage the students to remain in school through academic tutoring, career exploration, cultural enrichment and a mentoring experience.

"These young people deserve the opportunity to hope, to achieve, and to succeed," Brock said. "By devoting our time for just a few hours each week, we can make a special contribution to that brighter future."

Called LIFT (Labor Investing in Future Talent), the program is scheduled to run through August 28. Seventy Department of Labor employees are serving as mentors and tutors to the 12 and 13 year old students in reading and mathematics for one hour every Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Along with tutoring, these Labor Department employees meet with their students at the beginning and end of each day to monitor their progress and discuss problems. Each Tuesday and Wednesday, 30 minutes is devoted to career exploration. Every Thursday, students are taken on an educational field trip in the Washington, D.C. area.

# # #

Week of August 18, 1986

BLACK WOMAN NOMINATED FOR JOB CORPS HALL OF FAME

NEW YORK -- Bernadette T. Stallings, a high school dropout who completed training in radio and television repair in the Job Corps, has been nominated for the Job Corps Hall of Fame for 1986.

In making the announcement, Stanley Belza, regional director of the U.S. Labor Department's Job Corps program in New York, New Jersey, Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands, said that the nomination recognizes former Job Corps members for their outstanding achievements. The Hall of Fame was established in 1975.

Nominations from around the country are submitted to the Job Corps office in Washington, D.C., for consideration as Hall of Fame candidates. The winner will be inducted in the Hall of Fame at special ceremonies there.

Stallings, who was raised in Brooklyn, is working with local community based organizations to establish a senior citizen center in Oneonta, N.Y.

She was enrolled in the Oneonta Job Corps Center where she received vocational training in radio and television repair. She obtained her general equivalency diploma while attending Job Corps and enrolled in the State University of New York at Cortland.

Stallings also serves as a volunteer with the YMCA day camp in Oneonta.

The Job Corps program is a residential training program for disadvantaged young men and women. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Labor and operated by private firms under Labor Department contracts.

Belza said that he hopes Stallings will serve as a role model for other Job Corps enrollees because she is a "clear example of what can be achieved through the Job Corps program." The accomplishments of Stallings further reflect "an outstanding example" of the kind of motivation, encouragement and support that Job Corps provides, Belza added.

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Week of August 18, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The number of families maintained by women grew almost 90 percent between 1970 and 1985. The growth is attributed largely to more marriages ending in divorce and more women having children without marrying, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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As of 1985, 69.0 percent of women maintaining families were white, 28.8 percent were black, and 8,9 percent were of Hispanic origin, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In March 1985, there were more than 10.5 million families principally supported by women who were divorced, separated, widowed, or never married, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1985, the unemployment rate for women who maintained families stood at 10.5 percent, more than 3 percentage points above the national average of 7.2 percent, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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/25/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of August 25, 1986

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Week of August 25, 1986

FEWER BLACK YOUTH IN CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE THIS SUMMER

WASHINGTON -- Between April and July of this year, 509,000 black youths were in the civilian labor force, compared with 552,000 in 1985 and 592,000 in 1984, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) of the U.S. Department of Labor reported in its annual report on the youth summer employment situation.

The number of 16-to-24 year-olds in the labor force increased by 3.5 million between April and July of this year, BLS reported.

In its annual report on the youth summer employment situation, BLS also said that youth employment in July, at 22.7 million, was little changed from last year's level, while unemployment declined by about 240,000. The labor force was down by more than 300,000, as the youth population continued its decline; the 16-to-24 year-old population has fallen every year since 1980.

Labor Force

Each summer, the 16-to-24 year-old labor force expands sharply, as large numbers of students and graduates enter the labor force in search of temporary or permanent jobs. This summer, the youth labor force increased by 3.5 million, about the same as last year but less than the advances of 4.2 and 3.9 million in the summers of 1983 and 1984, respectively.

This July, the youth labor force totaled 26.1 million, 315,000 below the level of a year earlier. This lower level resulted entirely from reductions in the youth population, which was 500,000 less than in July 1985. (See tables 1 and 2.) The over-the-year changes in the population and labor force cited above have been adjusted to reflect revisions in the population estimating procedures that were introduced in January 1986.

The proportion of the youth population in the labor force (the labor force participation rate) was 76.7 percent, slightly above last July's level and the highest July level ever. Over the year, the labor force participation rate for black youth rose almost 2 percentage points, while that for whites was about unchanged. (See table 2.)

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Employment

The number of employed youth rose by 3.1 million between April and July of 1986 to 22.7 million. That figure was little changed from a year earlier and 2.4 million below its July 1979 peak.

The proportion of the youth population employed (the employment-population ratio), at 66.7 percent, was slightly above the year-earlier level, though still almost 1 percentage point below the peak reached in July 1979. Over the last 4 years, when the economy was expanding following the 1981-82 recession, the July employment-population ratios for whites and blacks increased by 4.8 and 7.6 percentage points, respectively. However, the ratio for blacks continued to be well below that for whites. As has been the case in prior summers, young blacks were more than twice as likely as whites to have government jobs. (See tables 2 and 3.)

Unemployment

The number of unemployed 16-to-24 year-olds was 3.4 million in July 1986, a decrease of about 240,000 from July 1985. The youth unemployment rate, at 13.0 percent, was down slightly over the year and was more than 4 percentage points below the July 1982 rate. Over that time span, the white and black youth unemployment rates have declined by 4 and 6 percentage points, respectively. The black youth unemployment rate of nearly 30 percent this July was close to three times that of whites. (See table 2.)

EXPLANATORY NOTE

These data are based on statistics obtained from the Current Population Survey, a monthly sample survey of 59,500 households conducted by the Bureau of the Census for the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The data relate to the week containing the 12th day of the specified month. None of the data presented in this analysis are adjusted for seasonality. In addition to providing an analysis of this summer's youth employment situation compared with that of recent years, this release also includes data on the influx of youth into the labor market between the spring and summer (table 1). The April-July period is used as the most representative time frame to measure the full summertime transition from school to work. July comparisons are preferable for analytical purposes since it is traditionally the peak month of youth employment. In addition, July data, unlike those for June and August, are not affected by differences in the timing of school closings and reopenings throughout the country.

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Table 1. Employment status of the civilian population 16 to 24 years of age by sex and race, April-July 1986

(Numbers in thousands. Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Employment status, sex, and race	April	May	June	July	April-July changes	
					Number	Percent
TOTAL						
Civilian noninstitutional population	34,190	34,150	34,075	34,030	-160	-0.5
Civilian labor force	22,583	23,078	25,359	26,088	3,505	15.5
Participation rate	66.1	67.6	74.4	76.7	10.6	16.0
Employed	19,577	19,858	21,616	22,699	3,122	15.9
Employment-population ratio 1/	57.3	58.1	63.4	66.7	9.4	16.4
Unemployed	3,006	3,220	3,743	3,390	384	12.8
Looking for full-time work	2,036	2,392	2,799	2,550	514	25.2
Looking for part-time work	969	828	944	840	-129	-13.3
Unemployment rate	13.3	14.0	14.8	13.0	-.3	-2.3
Not in labor force	11,607	11,073	8,718	7,940	-3,667	-31.6
Men						
Civilian noninstitutional population	16,835	16,837	16,813	16,779	-56	-.3
Civilian labor force	11,826	12,183	13,387	13,902	2,076	17.6
Participation rate	70.2	72.4	79.6	82.9	12.7	18.1
Employed	10,168	10,449	11,437	12,088	1,920	18.9
Employment-population ratio 1/	60.4	62.1	68.0	72.0	11.6	19.2
Unemployed	1,657	1,735	1,950	1,814	157	9.5
Looking for full-time work	1,148	1,341	1,555	1,426	278	24.2
Looking for part-time work	509	394	395	389	-120	-23.6
Unemployment rate	14.0	14.2	14.6	13.0	-1.0	-7.1
Not in labor force	5,010	4,654	3,426	2,877	-2,133	-42.6
Women						
Civilian noninstitutional population	17,355	17,314	17,263	17,250	-105	-.6
Civilian labor force	10,758	10,894	11,971	12,186	1,428	13.3
Participation rate	62.0	62.9	69.3	70.6	8.6	13.9
Employed	9,409	9,409	10,179	10,611	1,202	12.8
Employment-population ratio 1/	54.2	54.3	59.0	61.5	7.3	13.5
Unemployed	1,349	1,485	1,792	1,576	227	16.8
Looking for full-time work	888	1,050	1,244	1,124	236	26.6
Looking for part-time work	461	434	548	452	-9	-2.0
Unemployment rate	12.5	13.6	15.0	12.9	.4	3.2
Not in labor force	6,597	6,419	5,292	5,063	-1,534	-23.3
White						
Civilian noninstitutional population	28,358	28,307	28,254	28,204	-154	-.5
Civilian labor force	19,314	19,743	21,658	22,193	2,879	14.9
Participation rate	68.1	69.7	76.7	78.7	10.6	15.6
Employed	17,203	17,383	19,022	19,852	2,649	15.4
Employment-population ratio 1/	60.7	61.4	67.3	70.4	9.7	14.0
Unemployed	2,111	2,360	2,635	2,341	230	10.9
Looking for full-time work	1,396	1,734	1,928	1,730	334	23.9
Looking for part-time work	717	625	707	612	-105	-14.6
Unemployment rate	10.9	12.0	12.2	10.5	-.4	-3.7
Not in labor force	9,044	8,564	6,597	6,011	-3,033	-33.5
Black						
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,772	4,767	4,762	4,758	-14	-.3
Civilian labor force	2,731	2,770	3,093	3,240	509	18.6
Participation rate	57.2	58.1	65.0	68.1	10.9	19.1
Employed	1,930	2,007	2,105	2,281	351	18.2
Employment-population ratio 1/	40.4	42.1	44.2	47.9	7.5	18.6
Unemployed	800	763	988	958	158	19.8
Looking for full-time work	575	586	791	745	170	29.6
Looking for part-time work	225	177	198	214	-11	-4.9
Unemployment rate	29.3	27.5	31.9	29.6	.3	1.0
Not in labor force	2,042	1,997	1,669	1,518	-524	-25.7

1/ Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

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Table 2. Employment status of the civilian population 16 to 24 years of age by sex and race, July 1982-86

(Numbers in thousands. Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Employment status, sex, and race	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
TOTAL					
Civilian noninstitutional population	36,603	36,066	35,385	34,573	34,030
Civilian labor force	27,358	27,257	27,004	26,432	26,088
Participation rate	74.7	75.6	76.3	76.5	76.7
Employed	22,613	22,831	23,392	22,799	22,699
Employment-population ratio 1/	61.8	63.3	66.1	65.9	66.7
Unemployed	4,744	4,426	3,612	3,633	3,390
Looking for full-time work	3,790	3,518	2,816	2,797	2,550
Looking for part-time work	954	908	796	837	840
Unemployment rate	17.3	16.2	13.4	13.7	13.0
Not in labor force	9,245	8,809	8,380	8,141	7,940
Men					
Civilian noninstitutional population	18,013	17,798	17,476	17,027	16,779
Civilian labor force	14,625	14,764	14,418	14,091	13,902
Participation rate	81.2	83.0	82.5	82.8	82.9
Employed	12,032	12,268	12,461	12,129	12,088
Employment-population ratio 1/	66.8	68.9	71.3	71.2	72.0
Unemployed	2,592	2,495	1,957	1,962	1,814
Looking for full-time work	2,184	2,053	1,554	1,590	1,426
Looking for part-time work	408	443	404	372	389
Unemployment rate	17.7	16.9	13.6	13.9	13.0
Not in labor force	3,388	3,034	3,057	2,935	2,877
Women					
Civilian noninstitutional population	18,590	18,268	17,909	17,547	17,250
Civilian labor force	12,733	12,493	12,587	12,361	12,186
Participation rate	68.5	68.4	70.3	70.3	70.6
Employed	10,581	10,564	10,931	10,670	10,611
Employment-population ratio 1/	56.9	57.8	61.0	60.8	61.5
Unemployed	2,152	1,931	1,655	1,671	1,576
Looking for full-time work	1,606	1,465	1,263	1,206	1,124
Looking for part-time work	547	465	393	464	452
Unemployment rate	16.9	15.5	13.1	13.5	12.9
Not in labor force	5,857	5,775	5,324	5,206	5,063
White					
Civilian noninstitutional population	30,654	30,132	29,449	28,736	28,204
Civilian labor force	23,584	23,482	23,121	22,598	22,193
Participation rate	76.9	77.9	78.5	78.6	78.7
Employed	20,095	20,325	20,673	20,037	19,852
Employment-population ratio 1/	65.6	67.5	70.2	69.7	70.4
Unemployed	3,489	3,157	2,450	2,561	2,341
Looking for full-time work	2,747	2,459	1,889	1,923	1,730
Looking for part-time work	743	698	560	638	612
Unemployment rate	14.8	13.4	10.6	11.3	10.5
Not in labor force	7,070	6,650	6,326	6,138	6,011
Black					
Civilian noninstitutional population	4,952	4,965	4,943	4,810	4,758
Civilian labor force	3,110	3,171	3,278	3,190	3,240
Participation rate	62.8	63.9	66.3	66.3	68.1
Employed	1,994	2,041	2,227	2,225	2,281
Employment-population ratio 1/	40.3	41.1	45.1	46.3	47.9
Unemployed	1,116	1,132	1,051	965	958
Looking for full-time work	941	963	850	795	745
Looking for part-time work	175	167	200	170	214
Unemployment rate	35.9	35.7	32.1	30.3	29.6
Not in labor force	1,841	1,794	1,665	1,620	1,518

1/ Civilian employment as a percent of the civilian noninstitutional population.

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Table 3. Employed civilians 16 to 24 years of age by industry, class of worker, and race, July 1982-86

(In thousands. Data are not seasonally adjusted.)

Industry, class of worker, and race	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
TOTAL					
Total employed	22,613	22,831	23,392	22,799	22,699
Agriculture	1,163	1,195	1,091	987	887
Nonagricultural industries	21,450	21,635	22,300	21,812	21,812
Private wage and salary workers	18,784	19,015	19,934	19,462	19,497
Private household workers	548	621	512	514	541
Other private wage and salary workers	18,236	18,394	19,422	18,948	18,956
Government workers	2,064	2,125	1,853	1,880	1,849
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	602	496	513	470	464
White					
Total employed	20,095	20,325	20,673	20,037	19,852
Agriculture	1,091	1,110	1,013	906	840
Nonagricultural industries	19,004	19,215	19,660	19,131	19,012
Private wage and salary workers	16,813	17,123	17,782	17,223	17,211
Private household workers	495	548	471	480	504
Other private wage and salary workers	16,318	16,575	17,311	16,743	16,707
Government workers	1,627	1,629	1,406	1,475	1,376
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	563	463	472	433	424
Black and other 1/					
Total employed	2,518	2,505	2,721	2,762	2,847
Agriculture	72	84	78	81	47
Nonagricultural industries	2,446	2,421	2,643	2,683	2,800
Private wage and salary workers	1,971	1,890	2,153	2,239	2,286
Private household workers	53	73	42	34	37
Other private wage and salary workers	1,918	1,817	2,111	2,205	2,249
Government workers	437	498	447	406	473
Self-employed and unpaid family workers	39	33	43	38	41

1/ Data are not available for black (only) workers.

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Week of August 25, 1986

BLACK, OTHER AUTOMOBILE WORKERS QUALIFY FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that up to 2,000 automobile workers, including blacks, of the American Motors Corporation (AMC) in Kenosha, Wis., have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

Workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related services under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Workers at AMC's Main and Lakefront plants were engaged in the production of subcompact automobiles. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job because of increased imports at either of these facilities on or before Jan. 17, 1985, is eligible for Trade Adjustment Assistance benefits.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducted a fact-finding investigation, which provided the basis for the certifications.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in Wisconsin. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of payments minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of benefits.

The Wisconsin employment security agency will administer the program through local offices.

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Week of August 25, 1986

BLACK, OTHER APPAREL WORKERS QUALIFY FOR TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced that up to 600 apparel workers, including blacks, of Buxton, Incorporated in Agawam, Mass., have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance program.

Workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related assistance under provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Buxton workers were engaged in the production of personal leather goods. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job because of increased imports on or before Oct. 1, 1985 through May 31, 1986, is eligible for benefits.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducted a fact-finding investigation, which provided the basis for the certifications.

The program provides cash compensation for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in Massachusetts. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of payments minus the number of weeks for which they may have already collected UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of benefits.

The Massachusetts Division of Employment Security will administer the program through local offices.

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Week of August 25, 1986

1986 LABOR DAY STATEMENT BY LABOR SECRETARY BROCK

WASHINGTON -- Following is the text of Secretary of Labor William E. Brock's Labor Day statement:

Over the past two centuries, American workers have contributed vast amounts of talent, skill and productive energy to build our nation.

As we proudly salute these men and women on Labor Day, we can thank them for our country's remarkably high living standards, as well as for their contributions to its social, economic and technological progress.

Because we are blessed with the world's most highly skilled, productive workforce, American goods, services and technology have been used as models for progress in other nations.

Now that other countries are posing an economic challenge to the U.S., we will depend more than ever on American workers' skills and ingenuity to help maintain our industrial competitiveness.

In return, we owe workers our continuing efforts to protect and promote their well-being--not just in the workplace, but in our economy and society as a whole. Our foremost obligation is to provide them with adequate job opportunities and the chance to earn decent livings for themselves and their families.

Since our economy began its recovery from recession almost four years ago, millions of new jobs have been created. Inflation has been reduced, and interest rates have fallen. This has given many workers more spending power and economic security than they have enjoyed in years.

Yet millions of other Americans are still outside the mainstream of our rapidly growing and changing economy. Many economically disadvantaged youths and adults suffer long-term unemployment because they lack the basic education and skills required for work. Many skilled workers have been displaced from jobs by technological or economic changes in their industries; unless they have access to retraining, they often cannot qualify for new jobs.

Since the Administration-sponsored Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) took effect in 1983, many thousands of workers like these have been helped to gain entry or reentry to the job market through training programs operated locally by private industry, in cooperation with government and other organizations.

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But as we look to our country's future, we know that no single law or type of program will be enough to meet our dual challenge of reducing unemployment and assuring our industries of enough workers trained and prepared for tomorrow's jobs.

As we approach the end of the century, more and more new jobs will require a higher level of education and training.

Workers also must be prepared for rapid changes in jobs caused by technological advances or economic forces such as foreign competition. It will not be unusual in the future for workers to switch jobs or careers four or five times in their lives.

This means workers will need more job-oriented training, both in school and after they become employed. Workers also will need the flexibility, motivation and intellectual capabilities to keep pace with the changing demands placed on them.

To prepare workers for this, our schools need to reemphasize basic reading, writing and math skills, which have declined in recent years. We need to curb our high school drop-out rate, which in some areas reaches 50 percent. We also need to solve the adult illiteracy problem that currently afflicts some 23 million Americans.

If we hope to boost our industrial productivity and compete effectively in the world, we have to make the best use of our most valuable resource--workers. Functional illiteracy wastes minds, hands and talent we can ill afford to lose.

We need to focus on other problems, too, that hinder our productivity and keep workers from realizing their full potential.

For example, America has benefitted tremendously from the influx of women into our labor force, not only because they account for almost half of our workers and are filling essential jobs, but because they are bringing home income needed by their families. Many of these women are the sole support of families.

However, many working women, as well as men, today experience difficulty balancing demands of their jobs with the needs of their families. The shortage of adequate day care for children of working parents is just one example of how our society has failed to keep in step with emerging work and family concerns.

As life spans further increase and more men and women, married or unmarried, begin supporting aging, dependent parents, work and family conflicts will increase accordingly--unless attitudes, policies and programs change to permit a healthier balance between work and family needs.

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Labor and management have a cooperative role to play in structuring jobs, work schedules, leave policies and day care arrangements to mutually satisfy their needs in the 1980s and beyond--just as labor and management cooperatively should address other issues that affect productivity and employee well-being.

Fortunately, this cooperation is spreading. Workers and employers who have devised cooperative programs frequently report that they have improved the quality of worklife and helped increase productivity.

On Labor Day 1986, America is moving in the right direction. We have a growing economy generating millions of new jobs, more citizens working than at any time in history, and a clearer view of what institutions and groups in our society must do cooperatively to ensure future progress for working people so they can create more progress for the nation.

On this occasion in later years, let us be able to say we made the most of the opportunities this cooperation afforded us.

# # #

WEEK OF AUGUST 25, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women maintaining families in 1985 were in the labor force--that is, working or looking for work--compared with 54 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Four-fifths of the employed women maintaining families in 1985 worked at full-time jobs. Half of the women maintaining families had earnings which comprised three-fourths or more of family income, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1970, there were about 6.7 million children in one-parent families; by 1985 almost 13 million children were in such families. Most of these children are being raised by their mothers, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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9/1/86

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Week of September 1, 1986

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Week of Sept. 1, 1986

BLACK ACCOUNTING STUDENTS GAIN EXPERIENCE AT U.S. LABOR DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON -- Tracey Pearson, Pamela Cain and Edith Hutchins share several things in common. They are students at historically black universities, accounting majors, and they worked for the U. S. Labor Department this summer under a program designed to give black students majoring in accounting work experience in the field of auditing.

The Labor Department's Office of Inspector General (OIG), Office of Audit, in cooperation with the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), hired a total of 15 students from Hampton, North Carolina A & T and Southern Universities to work as accounting technicians for the summer.

Pearson, Cain and Hutchins were among the students hired for the summer. Their duties included participating in an audit.

The OIG's office of audit conducts and supervises audits relating to the department's programs and operations, and keeps the Secretary of Labor and Congress informed of the audits.

The audit that Pearson and Cain worked on involved the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), which provides job training nationwide to economically disadvantaged individuals with special barriers to employment, and to dislocated workers.

Gerald W. Peterson, assistant inspector general for audit, said, "The program exceeded our best expectations. The interns were very professional, worked hard and made significant contributions to our audit program. I would like to see the program continued and I will urge other agencies to replicate it."

Tracey Pearson, a junior at North Carolina A & T, worked with auditors from the department's area office in Daytona Beach, Fla., where she helped in gathering data and information for a JTPA audit there.

"I've learned a lot about the audit process by actually working and getting involved," Pearson said. "And the exposure will help me when I look for employment after graduation."

Pearson said she gained some additional learning experiences this summer, in budgeting, personal management and decision making.

Pearson, a native of Wadesboro, N.C., has a 3.2 grade point average. She is active in several campus organizations including the International Speech Club, Toastmaster's International and Accounting Language of Business --the Eyes and Ears of Management (ALOBEAM).

(more)

Pamela Cain found her summer work experience to be "rewarding." The Southern University junior was in Dallas working on the JTPA audit there.

"Gaining work experience in your field of study prior to graduation is a plus," Cain said. "Not only do you become more responsible, but you gain skills and valuable on-the-job training."

Cain said if she decides to become an auditor, her summer job with the Labor Department will have helped to prepare her.

In addition to what she learned about auditing, Cain said she learned the necessity for accuracy in one's work.

A native of Baton Rouge, La., Cain is secretary of the student government association at Southern and a member of the Executive Club and VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Preparer).

Edith E. Hutchins did not get as much experience in the audit process as she had hoped for, but her summer work experience proved to be rewarding just the same.

"My work experience was outside of the actual audit process, but I can apply what I learned to almost any job or learning situation," Hutchins said.

Hutchins was assigned to the financial management audit division in Washington, D.C. This division is the focal point within the OIG for financial management and accounting activities and projects.

Hutchins, a junior at Hampton University in Hampton, Va., said intern programs like the AICPA-sponsored one "give students an opportunity to not only see what it's like to work in their chosen field, but they gain marketable skills, training and knowlege of things that extend beyond the classroom."

Hutchins has a 3.6 grade point average. After graduation she said it's possible that she might seek employment with the federal government as an auditor, but she wants to learn more about the field first.

Hutchins is a native of Calvert County, Md.

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Week of September 1, 1986

NEW RULES PROPOSED FOR INDUSTRIAL HOMEWORKERS

WASHINGTON -- Employment restrictions for homeworkers in six industries would be modified by regulations proposed by the U.S. Department of Labor under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

Under the proposed rule, employers who obtain certificates from the department would be permitted to employ homeworkers, while employers without such certificates would continue to be subject to the existing ban on employment of homeworkers in certain industries.

The six industries affected by this proposal are: women's apparel; jewelry manufacturing; gloves and mittens; button and buckle manufacturing; handkerchief manufacturing and embroideries.

The proposal follows an 18-month review of a certification system in the knitted outerwear industry which was adopted in late 1984 by the Labor Department.

The certification system would allow employers in these industries who obtain certificates and pay their homeworkers proper minimum wage and overtime pay the opportunity to legally employ workers at home.

However, employers in the six industries who do not identify themselves as homeworker employers by obtaining certificates could not legally employ homeworkers.

Secretary of Labor William Brock stated, "Because of the nationwide interest in homeworker employment, the public comment period will be extended for 60 days" beginning with notice of the proposed rulemaking which appeared in the Federal Register of Aug. 21, 1986.

Comments may be submitted to Paula V. Smith, administrator, Wage and Hour Division, U.S. Department of Labor, Room S3502, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--JULY 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) for July at 328.0 (1967=100) was virtually unchanged from its level of 327.9 in June before seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The CPI-U for July 1986 was 1.6 percent higher than the index in July 1985.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also was virtually unchanged in July prior to seasonal adjustment. The CPI-W for July 1986 was 322.9 (1967=100) and was 1.2 percent higher than the index in July 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U was unchanged in July, following increases of 0.2 percent in May and 0.5 percent in June. Energy prices, which had decreased sharply earlier this year before turning upward in May and June, declined 4.1 percent in July. While each of the energy components declined, the index for energy commodities--fuel oil, coal, and bottled gas and motor fuels--dropped 6.3 percent and accounted for over four-fifths of the energy drop. Excluding energy the CPI-U advanced 0.5 percent in July, largely as the result of increases in the indexes for food and shelter. The index for grocery store foods, reflecting advances in prices of meats and poultry, rose 1.3 percent in July after declining 0.2 percent during the first 6 months of 1986. Excluding the food, shelter, and energy components, the CPI rose 0.3 percent in July, the same as in June.

During the first 7 months of 1986, the CPI-U declined at an annual rate of 0.2 percent.

Prices for motor fuels turned down in July and were responsible for the 1.2 percent decline in the transportation index. Gasoline prices--down 6.6 percent in July after advancing 3.1 percent in June--have declined 27.4 percent in the first 7 months of 1986 and were 35.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Continued declines in the indexes for used cars and automobile finance charges also contributed to lower transportation costs in July. Used car prices declined 0.5 percent in July and were 4.4 percent lower than a year ago. Automobile finance charges dropped 1.2 percent in July to a point 10.4 percent below their year-earlier levels. The indexes for new cars and automobile insurance--up 0.4 and 0.9 percent, respectively--continued to increase, but by less than in June. The index for public transportation rose 0.6 percent, primarily due to a 1.1 percent rise in fares for intracity mass transit.

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The housing component, which increased 0.5 percent in June, was virtually unchanged in July, largely because of a decline in the index for fuel and other utilities. The indexes for electricity and natural gas, which had surged upward in June after declining in each of the 3 preceding months, dropped in July, down by 0.3 and 3.2 percent, respectively. Fuel oil prices--down 5.8 percent in July--declined for the seventh consecutive month and were 39 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for telephone services, which rose 1.9 percent in June, were unchanged in July as a 1.1 percent increase in charges for local telephone services was offset by a 3.8 percent drop in charges for interstate toll calls. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent in July, following increases of 0.1 and 0.2 percent in May and June, respectively. Within the shelter component, renters' costs rose 0.7 percent, homeowners' costs, 0.4 percent, and maintenance and repair costs, 0.7 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations rose 0.2 percent in July, the same as in June.

The food and beverage component rose 0.8 percent in July, following a 0.1 percent increase in June. Grocery store food prices advanced 1.3 percent for their largest monthly increase since January 1984 largely on the strength of a 3.2 percent rise in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. All major categories within this group rose substantially. Beef prices--up 1.2 percent in July--increased for the second consecutive month after declining in each of the first 5 months of 1986. Pork prices, which increased 2.0 percent in June, rose 6.8 percent in July. Poultry prices, reflecting in part drought conditions in the southeastern United States, rose 7.4 percent in July, continuing the pattern of large increases for the third consecutive month. Prices for fish and seafood and for eggs increased 2.1 and 1.9 percent, respectively, in July. A turnaround in fruit and vegetable prices--up 0.8 percent in July after declining 2.8 percent in June--also contributed to higher grocery store food prices in July. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and 0.3 percent, respectively.

# # #

Week of September 1, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN JULY 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.5 percent from June to July after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This decrease stemmed from a 0.2 percent decrease in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) was unchanged over the month.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.5 percent between July of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.1 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $303.63 in July 1986, compared with $299.05 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power decreased 0.1 percent between June and July. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.2 percent. (See tables 1 and 2.) The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 1, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

In 1985, about 11.2 million children under the age of 18 were living in a family maintained by a woman. More than two-fifths were living with a divorced mother and more than one-fifth were living with a never-married mother, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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The number of families maintained by women grew almost 90 percent between 1970 and 1985, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Mothers raising children by themselves often receive no support from the absent father. In 1983, only about half of women with dependent children were awarded child support or had an agreement to receive it, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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As of 1985, 69.0 percent of women maintaining families were white, 28.8 percent were black, and 8.9 percent were of Hispanic origin, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Labor Department.

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9/8/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
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Week of September 8, 1986

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IM THIS ISSUE:

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FOR 40 BLACK YOUNGSTERS

BLACK SUMMER EMPLOYEE CAN APPLY
WORK EXPERIENCE TO SCHOOL

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.1 MILLION FOR BLACKS, OTHER
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FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of Sept. 8, 1986

PROJECT LIFT, A GOOD START FOR 40 BLACK YOUNGSTERS

WASHINGTON -- Forty District of Columbia disadvantaged junior high school students who participated in a four-week enrichment program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor were presented certificates of achievement at an awards ceremony here.

In cooperation with the D.C. Public School system, the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration designed the pilot program to encourage the students to remain in school.

Project LIFT (Labor Investing in Future Talent), provided the 12 and 13 year old students with tutoring and mentoring in reading, mathematics, career exploration and cultural enrichment programs.

Seventy Labor Department employees served as mentors and tutors to the students.

Roger Semerad, assistant secretary of labor for the Employment and Training Administration said, "The Department of Labor has a special responsibility to young people, to show that they are going to be needed in the future workforce."

Semerad encouraged the students to continue the success of Project LIFT in their academic and personal pursuits.

He called the pilot program a "rewarding learning experience for all.

"The success of Project LIFT and the involvement of these youngsters is an investment that can be vital to their futures and the future of America as well," Semerad said.

Floretta Dukes McKenzie, superintendent of schools for the District of Columbia, commended the Labor Department and its staff for "reaching out and touching the lives of some very special young people.

"It's one thing to provide grants to do things but it's another when you get involved yourself."

McKenzie continued, saying that "its important not only to teach young people academics but to be results oriented. You've helped these youngsters to learn and you've shown them the proper way to conduct themselves on the job site and how to be interviewed for summer jobs."

Mckenzie encouraged the tutors and mentors to keep in touch with the students "to show that you care."

Under Secretary of Labor Dennis E. Whitfield presented certificates to the students. They included a check for $50.

(more)

Whitfield told the young people that if they gained one thing from participating in Project LIFT it should be responsibility. "Be responsible to yourself, responsible for staying in school and going as far as you can go in life," he said.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the students went outside of the Labor Department headquarters and released ballons to symbolize their accomplishment.

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Week of Sept. 8, 1986

BLACK SUMMER EMPLOYEE CAN APPLY WORK EXPERIENCE TO SCHOOL

WASHINGTON -- Stanley C. Colbert is excited about beginning his freshman year at the University of Maryland this fall and said that his summer job at the U.S. Department of Labor here has provided him with skills he can use in school.

Colbert, 18, who was hired under the Summer Youth Employment Program, worked for the Labor Department's Office of Inspector General in its Office of Audit.

Madeline Coleman, Colbert's supervisor, commended his punctuality and eagerness to work.

"Stanley reported for duty early each day. He was eager to begin assignments, completed them in a timely and efficient manner and was a dependable worker with a positive attitude," she said.

Colbert said he believes that "punctuality, a positive attitude toward work and determination help to develop responsibility and build character, not only on the job but in other situations."

Although most of his time was spent photocopying and filing materials, he said he enjoyed the work experience.

He admits that initially he had reservations about working in an office environment because he thought the work would be routine and dull. But soon afterwards, he said, he learned that office work can often be "fast-paced and demanding.

"Working in an office environment has also helped me to gain a better understanding of the importance of teamwork. Everyone seemed so eager to help me. It was a very pleasant experience," Colbert said.

Colbert's summer job increased his skills in typing and computer usage.

"I didn't have very much experience in typing or computer usage, but this job provided me with the opportunity to at least improve and increase those skills," he said.

"Not only will the things I learned this summer help me in school, but it will help me in other jobs, too."

Colbert describes himself as being energetic, self-motivated and ambitious.

He plans to major in engineering and said he's aware that he must maintain a high academic average, but his summer job has been an inspiration and has helped him to realize that with dedication, effort and determination he can meet his goals.

Colbert said he believes that the Summer Youth Employment Program gives young people who want to work that opportunity.

(more)

"I don't think persons my age should sit around moping because they don't have a summer job or any job," he said. "Instead, they should get out, look for work and perform the job well."

Colbert received numerous awards while attending Bladensburg High School in Bladensburg, Md., including the Merit Scholastic Award and a team merit award for his participation on the football team, where he played linebacker, offensive guard and nose guard.

In his spare time, Colbert enjoys building model cars, participating in sports and weight lifting.

###

Week of September 8, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $2.1 MILLION FOR BLACKS, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 3 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $2,100,000 in grants for dislocated workers, including blacks, in Kansas, New York and Texas who are displaced due to layoffs, plant closures and adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act, and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"Job training is the most important mechanism for re-employment," Secretary Brock stated. "Through JTPA, we can provide workers with the necessary skills to adapt to a changing economy and job market."

The Kansas Department of Human Resources will receive $200,000 to assist up to 150 dislocated oil and gas workers and workers who produce equipment for use in the oil and gas industry. The areas affected are counties with unemployment rates above the national average: Anderson, Allen, Barton, Chautaugua, Cherokee, Coffey, Elk, Ellis, Grahan, Greenwood, Linn, Montgomery, Neosho, Reno, Rice, Rooks and Trego. Workers will work closely with specially assigned Employment and Training Representatives to identify their needs and implement services. Services include classroom and on-the-job training, and job search and relocation assistance.

The Rochester/Monroe Private Industry Council in New York will receive $800,000 to assist up to 615 workers laid off from Eastman Kodak, Rochester Products, Black & Decker, Foster Wheeler, Westinghouse, Sybron, Computer Consoles and Mallory Timers Companies. The areas affected are Genesee, Livingston, Monroe, Ontario, Orleans, Seneca, Wayne, Wyoming and Yates counties. A career assistance center in Rochester will provide on-the-job and classroom training, counseling, job clubs, job search and relocation assistance, job skills workshops, customized training, career development and placement and follow-up services.

New York's Chemung, Schuyler, Steuben Private Industry Council will receive $300,000 to assist up to 100 workers laid off due to a number of small plant closings. The counties of Chemung, Schuyler and Steuben are affected. The Toshiba Westinghouse Electronics Corporation, an American-Japanese joint venture, will provide training and employment to a large number of the participants. Services will include: assessment, outreach, counseling, on-the-job and classroom training, remedial education and supportive services.

The Houston-Galveston Area Council in Texas will receive $800,000 to assist up to 570 workers dislocated from the oil and gas exploration and extraction, manufacturing and non-electrical machinery and construction industries. The areas affected are Austin, Brazoria, Chambers, Colorado, Fort Bend, Galveston, Harris, Liberty, Matagorda, Montgomery, Walker, Waller and Wharton counties. Participants will receive skills training from community colleges and on-the-job training from local employers.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 8, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Poverty in families headed by women is a source of increasing public concern. In 1984, the number of these families with incomes below poverty level exceeded the number of married-couple families in poverty, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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From 1980 to 1984, the number of persons in poverty in families maintained by women increased 17 percent, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Characteristics of women who head families include higher unemployment, lower educational attainment, more dependent children and lower earnings when compared with other labor force groups, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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9/15/86

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Week of September 15, 1986

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TWINS FIND FIRST JOB TO BE 'LEARNING EXPERIENCE'

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September 15, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT EDGES UP IN AUGUST

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers edged up in August to 14.6 percent; it was 14.0 percent in July, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The jobless rate for black adult men moved up from 12.7 to 13.2 percent in August. Similarly, the rate for black adult women was up from 11.9 to 12.5 percent over the month.

For black youth, ages 16 to 19, the unemployment rate was 39.5 percent.

The nation's overall unemployment rate was 6.7 percent and the civilian workers rate was 6.8 percent; each has declined half a percentage point since May.

Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--rose by about 275,000 in August, while nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--increased by 200,000. Over the past year, employment growth in both surveys has totaled roughly 2-1/2 million.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was little changed in August at 8.0 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker jobless rate was 6.8 percent, not materially different from the 6.9 percent of the previous month. Unemployment rates this summer have been lower than they were earlier in the year.

Unemployment rates declined among adult men (to 5.9 percent) and white workers (to 5.8 percent) in August. Jobless rates among adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (17.7 percent), blacks (14.6 percent), and Hispanics (11.0 percent) were all about the same as in July.

The median duration of unemployment was little changed in August, whereas the mean duration increased from 15.0 to 15.8 weeks. The very long-term unemployed (27 weeks and over) was about unchanged over the month but has risen slightly as a percentage of the total unemployed in recent months.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment increased by 275,000 to 110.2 million. Employment growth was concentrated among white workers, while black workers posted small job losses. The proportion of the civilian population with jobs was 60.9 percent in August, another record high; that figure has increased 0.8 percentage point over the past year, as civilian employment grew by 2.6 million.

-more-

The civilian labor force was about unchanged at 118.2 million in August, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force grew by 2.4 million. (Both the over-the-year employment and labor force changes have been adjusted to account for revisions in the population estimating procedures introduced in January.)

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

The number of employees on nonagricultural payrolls rose by 200,000 to 100.3 million in August, seasonally adjusted. The over-the-month gain would have been even larger except for a net increase of some 40,000 workers who were off payrolls because of labor-management disputes.

In the goods-producing sector, construction employment increased by 55,000, after seasonal adjustment. Total employment in this industry stood at 5.0 million and has increased by a third since early 1983. Mining employment fell by about 10,000, continuing a pattern of decline extending back to mid-1984, all of which has been in the oil and gas extraction component. Manufacturing employment, which had been on a downtrend over the prior 6 months, held about steady in August. The factory job total was lower by some 20,000 workers who were off payrolls in the steel industry due to labor-management disputes. More than half of the manufacturing industries showed small over-the-month increases.

Employment in the service-producing sector continued to expand in August. Services rose by 65,000 over the month, most of it in the health services component. Finance, insurance, and real estate increased by 40,000; job gains in the industry were a vibrant 6.5 percent over the past year. Employment also rose in wholesale trade over the month. After accounting for the effects of a communication workers strike in the Northeast, employment in transportation and public utilities was unchanged.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.8 in August, up 0.1 hour after seasonal adjustment. In manufacturing, weekly hours rose 0.2 hour, while overtime hours were unchanged.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls increased by 0.5 percent to 118.6 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index was up by 0.8 percent to 93.0.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings rose by 0.5 percent in August, and weekly earnings were up 0.8 percent, after seasonal adjustment. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings were unchanged at $8.69, and weekly earnings increased by 87 cents to $305.02. Over the past year, average hourly earnings have risen 17 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $5.12.

-more-

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 169.2 (1977=100) in August, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.2 percent from July. For the 12 months ended in August, the increase was 2.2 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.1 percent during the 12-month period ended in July.

# # #

Week of September 15, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL WARNS BLACKS, HISPANICS COULD BE 'PERMANENT' UNDERCLASS IN WORK FORCE BY YEAR 2000

WASHINGTON -- Roger D. Semerad, assistant secretary of labor for employment and training, has warned that Hispanics and blacks could be a permanent underclass by the year 2000, unless action is taken.

He said that finding qualified workers will be more difficult by the turn of the century because the labor force will grow more slowly over the next 15 years and jobs will require higher skill levels.

Unless the nation addresses a series of alarming problems now, there is danger that the labor pool then "may be composed of an unacceptable number of people who are functionally illiterate, without basic cognitive and reasoning skills, without technical skills, and without the motivation to improve," Semerad said.

Citing what he termed "alarming" statistics, Semerad noted that there are more than 700,000 high school dropouts annually, with a black dropout rate of 44 percent.

He said that from 1978 to 1983, the black unemployment rate was 2.4 times that of whites and that blacks and Hispanics were overrepresented among occupations likely to suffer high job losses.

Semerad said that among the 17 year olds of today--those who will be in the prime work age in the year 2000--40 percent fail in comprehension skills and 66 percent cannot solve math problems. Unless drastic action is taken, these numbers will increase, he warned.

In projecting labor force needs by the turn of the century, Semerad predicted that the majority of the employed will be managers, technicians and high skilled workers in the service sector, most of whom will require some advance education.

"The unskilled, the marginally literate and those without motivation," are not likely to be part of the future work force, he added.

However, Semerad said he was "optomistic" about the nation's future work force because "We understand that many of the solutions exist in education and training."

The Labor Department official, who heads the nation's federal employment and training program, said the nation should continue to focus on the very young with early intervention programs which can prevent education and social problems.

-more-

He said that nearly 800,000 youths, 14 to 15, benefitted from this year's Summer Youth Employment and Training program under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

He noted that the foundation for future cooperative efforts between the public and private sectors already exists under JTPA and expressed optimism that there would be major initiatives to address problems which are barriers to the economic advancement of the underclass.

Those "disquieting problems," Semerad said, include illiteracy, dropping out of school, teenage pregnancy, alcohol and drug abuse, welfare dependency and crime.

# # #

Week of Sept. 15, 1986

TWINS FIND FIRST JOB TO BE ´LEARNING EXPERIENCE´

WASHINGTON -- Pamela and Angela Aiken said they gained quite a bit of experience from their summer job with the U.S. Department of Labor, including learning office skills that will benefit them in school and in other jobs.

The 16 year-old twins also found their first work experience to be rewarding and fun.

"I really enjoyed working here this summer," said Pamela. "It was my first job and it was fun."

Both twins said, "It´s very important for youth our age to stay in school and earn good grades.

"And they should also try finding some type of part-time job and begin doing something constructive with their lives."

Their summer job, the twins said, provided more opportunities than they had expected, including learning skills such as typing and using the computer.

"My job was a learning experience," said Angela. "I learned how to type and how to use other types of office equipment."

In addition to developing office skills, the twins said they learned some "valuable work habits," including punctuality, accuracy in one´s work, good attendance and communications skills.

Angela and Pamela are former students of Hart Junior High School here, which was adopted by the Labor Department under the Adopt-a-School program last year.

In the partnership between the Labor Department and Hart, the department has provided tutors, role models and career day speakers and has held a fund-raiser for the school. Now it´s helping students to become more aware of the Summer Youth Employment Program by helping them obtain summer jobs.

The twins, now tenth graders at Washington´s Ballou Senior High School, have begun to take a serious look at their futures.

Pamela would like to attend the University of Maryland, where she wants to major in fashion design and accounting, while Angela plans to become a nurse.

Pamela and Angela Aiken are looking forward to their futures and are grateful to the Labor Department for giving them that first chance.

The twins said if they could offer their peers any advice, it would be: "Stick to it, never stop trying and you will make it in life."

###

Week of September 15, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

During the 1985 fiscal year, the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards closed 460 embezzlement cases involving all types and sizes of unions located throughout the country, according to the Labor Department's annual report.

# # #

Provisions of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act intended to ensure that union members have fair and democratic elections for their leadership positions constituted the major civil enforcement activity of the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Labor-Management Standards during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the department's annual report.

# # #

The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs conducted or cosponsored 35 conferences and other meetings to promote better labor-management cooperation during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the department's annual report.

# # #

The Emergency Veterans' Job Training Program provided training leading to permanent employment for more than 40,000 veterans of the Korean conflict and the Vietnam era through training programs offered by employers during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report.

# # #

9/22/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of September 22, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACK JOB CORPS GRADUATE HONORED AS DENVER'S EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--AUGUST 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of September 22, 1986

BLACK JOB CORPS GRADUATE HONORED AS DENVER'S EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR

DENVER -- When LaDonna Tramble was a 17 year old student at a Job Corps Center in Albuquerque, N.M., one of her instructors encouraged her to "go as far as you can go."

Today - nearly 20 years later - that teacher would be proud to see how far LaDonna's come and to know that she plans an even brighter future.

Tramble was just selected as "1986 Employee of the Year" for the city and county of Denver out of 9,000 career service employees. She credits much of her success to training she received in the U.S. Labor Department's Job Corps program.

"Job Corps gave me the skills and experience to become a leader and to deal with people from all walks of life," said Tramble. "It's also given me the ability to get involved in many outside activities and organizations."

Tramble, a clerk-typist III in the Pawnshop Records Unit of the Denver Police Department, was nominated for the award by her supervisor, Lieutenant John Mlinar, because "she is the foundation of the unit." She began her 14-year city career in 1972 as an entry-level clerk-typist in the department's clerical detail and has consistently rated "outstanding" on her performance reports.

In her job, Tramble maintains files on gun sales and registrations, stolen property, and valuable item transactions. Over the years she has developed such a high degree of expertise that she can immediately determine if a serial number was incorrectly reported.

Each day LaDonna enters information in the FBI's computer system on all articles reported stolen and is in constant contact with pawnshops, firearms dealers and the general public. The unit recovers over a quarter of a million dollars in stolen property every year and, according to Lieutenant Mlinar, commander of the department's records section, "It is, by no small measure, through her efforts that this unit is so highly efficient and professional."

LaDonna received training in keypunch operation and clerical-secretarial skills at Job Corps Centers in Albuquerque and Astoria, Ore., but feels she got more out of her Job Corps experience than needed skills.

"Our center counselors always encouraged us to get involved in outside activities and stressed the need for community service," she says.

-more-

One of LaDonna's current "outside activities," and perhaps the most important, is her intense involvement with the Spina Bifida Association -- the result of her 10-year-old daughter's struggle with that disease. LaDonna is now the association's second vice-president and in heading its fund raising activities has been commended for her dedication and commitment to the organization.

"The emotional strength I built up in Job Corps has really helped me deal with her disability," Tramble added.

Tramble also serves on the Special Education Advisory Board and the Superintendent's Advisory Board for the Denver Public Schools and chairs her local school's Improvement and Accountability Council.

Her involvement in the Job Corps also has continued over the years. In 1980 LaDonna was one of three founders of the Job Corps Alumni Association and now serves as regional representative of the 6,000-member nationwide organization.

In fact, the Job Corps always has been a family-type activity for LaDonna. A brother and sister were enrolled in centers in Nebraska and Texas when she was in Albuquerque, and now her oldest daughter, Vinita, is following in her mother's footsteps at the Clearfield, Utah, center.

LaDonna received her Employee-of-the-Year award plaque from Denver Mayor Frederico Pena at a special city hall ceremony attended by many of her friends and co-workers.

In his tribute to LaDonna, Lieutenant Mlinar said, "If the Police Department elects to place more career service employees in positions of trust and responsibility, they would be well advised to seek candidates of high caliber like LaDonna. She is not only an outstanding asset to the city, but an exemplary member of the community."

While she is "thrilled" with all the attention this special recognition has brought to her, LaDonna was most appreciative that her superiors "took the time to do this for me, in addition to telling me I do a good job."

# # #

Week of September 22, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods increased 0.3 percent from July to August after seasonal adjustment, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

The index had decreased by roughly the same amount in July, after having registered no change in June.

The intermediate goods index inched down 0.1 percent in August, considerably less than July's decline of 0.7 percent. Prices received by domestic producers of crude goods edged down 0.2 percent over the month, in the wake of a substantial rise a month earlier and an almost equally large fall in June.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices advanced considerably for the third time in the last 4 months. Although prices for finished energy goods continued to decline, the drop in August was much smaller than the near-record decrease registered in July. The index for finished goods other than foods and energy again moved up marginally.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods rose 0.1 percent to 288.3 (1967=100).

During the 12 months ended in August 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index decreased 1.8 percent. During that same period, consumer food prices climbed 5.5 percent, the index for energy goods dropped 36.2 percent, prices for consumer goods other than foods and energy moved up 2.3 percent, and capital equipment prices advanced 1.8 percent. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 4.2 percent from August 1985 to August 1986, and the crude materials index moved down 6.7 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 22, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

Sixty-one percent of women maintaining families in 1985 were in the labor force--that is, working or looking for work--compared with 54 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Four-fifths of the employed women maintaining families in 1985 worked at full-time jobs. Half of the women maintaining families had earnings which comprised three-fourths or more of family income, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

In March 1985, there were more than 10.5 million families principally supported by women who were divorced, separated, widowed, or never married. These families accounted for almost 17 percent of all families in the United States, compared with 13 percent in 1975, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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9/29/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information,
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 29, 1986

IN THIS ISSUE:

SEMERAD ANNOUNCES PUBLIC [illegible]
TO RE-EXAMINE THE U.S. EM[illegible]

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--AUGUST 1986

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Week of September 29, 1986

SEMERAD ANNOUNCES PUBLIC MEETINGS TO RE-EXAMINE THE U.S. EMPLOYMENT SERVICE

WASHINGTON -- Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad has announced that the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) will hold public meetings in San Francisco, Denver, Atlanta, and Washington, D.C., to provide interested parties with a forum for their views on the U.S. Employment Service's (USES) ability to respond to future labor market needs.

"Our studies at the department indicate we will face major challenges in the employment and training area around the turn of the century," Semerad said. "As with all of our programs, we are taking an open, non partisan and analytical look at the Employment Service and its ability to meet these challenges."

A Department of Labor study entitled "Workforce 2000" has revealed trends that indicate the labor market and work place of the future will be substantially different from what we have today. Using this study as a basis, ETA will look at the Employment Service's strengths and weaknesses and the critical changes that must occur to match the needs of employers and workers in the Year 2000.

The re-examination will focus on the basic purpose and functions of a public labor exchange's process of matching workers to jobs as mandated by the Wagner-Peyser Act. Functions currently imposed on the Employment Service by other legislation are not at issue. Congressionally mandated responsibilities, including veterans priority, will continue.

The meetings will commence at 9 A. M. and end at 4 P. M. Dates and locations are listed below:

Oct 15, San Francisco -- Ramada Renaissance Hotel, 55 Cyril Magnin Street;
Oct. 17, Denver -- Holiday Inn Denver Downtown, 1450 Glenarm Place;
Oct. 21, Atlanta -- Georgia International Convention and Trade Center,
1902 Sullivan Road, College Park, Ga, and
Oct. 23, Washington, D.C. -- J.W. Marriott Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.

-more-

Persons desiring to present oral statements at the meetings must provide a notice of intent to appear, postmarked on or before October 2, 1986, to the addresses listed below. Persons planning to attend a public meeting should call the appropriate ETA regional office at the telephone number listed below.

For the San Francisco meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
450 Golden Gate Avenue
Box 36084 (Room 9108)
San Francisco, California 94102
415-556-7414

For the Denver meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
1961 Stout Street, Room 1668
Denver, Colorado 80294
303-844-4477

For the Atlanta meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
1371 Peachtree Street, N.E., Room 400
Atlanta, Georgia 30367
404-347-4411

For the Washington meeting:
U.S. Department of Labor
Employment and Training Administration
3535 Market Street, Room 13300
P.O. Box 8796
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19101
215-596-6336

Written statements from persons not presenting oral statements must be postmarked no later than October 29, 1986 and should be mailed to: Shirley Peterson, Administrator, Office of Employment Security, Employment and Training Administration, U.S. Department of Labor, Room N4470, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20210.

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.2 percent before seasonal adjustment in August to a level of 328.6 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in August, the CPI-U has increased 1.6 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.2 percent in August, prior to seasonal adjustment. The August 1986 CPI-W level of 323.4 (1967=100) was 1.2 percent higher than the index in August 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in August, following no change in July. Price changes in the energy and food components continued to dominate the movement of the CPI. The energy component declined 1.9 percent in August, reflecting a further drop in prices for gasoline and fuel oil. On the other hand, the food index rose 0.9 percent for the second consecutive month, again primarily due to sharp advances in meat, poultry, and egg prices. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in August, the same as the average monthly increase for the first 7 months of 1986.

During the first 8 months of 1986, the overall CPI-U rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.1 percent. Energy prices declined at a 25.8 percent annual rate during this period. Excluding energy, the CPI-U advanced at 3.7 annual rate during the first 8 months of 1986, which compares with a 4.0 percent increase in the 12 months ended in December 1985.

The food and beverage component rose 0.9 percent in August, following a 0.8 percent increase in July. Grocery store food prices advanced 1.2 percent, primarily due to another 3.2 rise in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs. During the first 5 months of 1986, prices for beef, pork, poultry, and eggs all declined, but each has turned up sharply in the past 3 months. Beef prices rose 2.1 percent in August, bringing their advance to 3.7 percent since May. Pork prices increased 4.5 percent in August and were 13.9 percent higher than 3 months earlier. Prices for poultry--up 6.1 percent in August--have increased 16.6 percent in the 3-month period ended in August. Egg prices rose 10.9 in August and were up 16.5 percent in the past 3 months. Among other grocery store foods in August, prices for fruits and vegetables increased 0.7 percent, largely due to a 14.3 percent rise in prices for apples. The index for cereal and bakery products increased 0.6 percent, while the indexes for dairy products and other foods at home were unchanged. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.4 and declined 0.2 percent, respectively.

-more-

12 months. Shelter costs continued to increase moderately, advancing 0.3 percent in August. Within shelter, renters' costs rose 0.2 percent; homeowners' costs, 0.3 percent; and maintenance and repair costs, 2.0 percent. The index for household furnishings and operations increased 0.4 percent in August.

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in August, about the same as the average monthly rate of increase so far this year. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.2 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.6 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 0.6 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for apparel and upkeep registered its second consecutive increase, advancing 0.7 percent in August. The introduction of higher priced fall and winter merchandise, particularly women's and girls' clothing, was largely responsible for the advance.

The entertainment component was virtually unchanged in August. The other goods and services component rose 0.6 percent in August, following a 0.9 percent increase in July.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) -- Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.2 percent in August.

The index for transportation, reflecting another drop in motor fuel prices, declined 0.9 percent in August. Gasoline prices--down 4.7 percent in August--declined 30.8 percent in the first 8 months of 1986 and were 38.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Continued declines in the indexes for used cars and automobile finance charges also contributed to lower transportation costs in August. Used car prices--down 0.4 percent in August--declined for the seventh consecutive month and were 4.3 percent below their level a year ago. Automobile finance charges dropped 1.2 percent in August to a point 9.2 percent below their year-earlier levels. The indexes for new cars and automobile insurance--up 0.3 and 0.1 percent, respectively--continued to advance, but by less than in recent months. The increase in the cost of automobile insurance, which has advanced 13.3 percent in the past 12 months, was the smallest rise in 2 years. The index for public transportation was unchanged in August as a decline in airline fares offset moderate increases in fares for most other modes of public transportation.

The housing component, which was unchanged in July, rose 0.2 percent in August, largely due to a turnaround in the index for fuel and other utilities. Charges for natural gas increased 1.6 percent in August, following a decline of 3.2 percent in July, and more than offset further declines in the indexes for electricity and fuel oil, coal, and bottled gas. Despite the August advance, the index for natural gas was 3.9 percent lower than a year ago. Fuel oil prices--down 1.7 percent in August--declined for the eighth consecutive month and were 40 percent below their peak level of April 1981. Charges for electricity, which decreased slightly in both July and August, were up 2.6 percent over the past

# # #

Week of September 29, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The average woman worker 16 years of age in 1979-80 could expect to spend 29.3 years of her life in the labor force, this compared with 39.1 years for a 16-year-old man, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women accounted for over 44 percent of all persons in the civilian labor force in 1985. Among these, half of all black workers were women; 44 percent of all white workers were women; and 39 percent of all Hispanic workers were women, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women represented 61 percent of all persons 16 years old and over who had incomes below the poverty level in 1984, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/6/86 -

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Week of October 6, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

LABOR DEPARTMENT RESCHEDULES NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WORK AND FAMILY LIFE

REAL EARNINGS IN AUGUST 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of October 6, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT RESCHEDULES NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON WORK AND FAMILY LIFE

WASHINGTON -- The conference, Work and Family: Seeking a New Balance, has been rescheduled for March 30 and 31, 1987 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel here. The conference, which had originally been scheduled last April, is being sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor in cooperation with the AFL-CIO and the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM).

Secretary of Labor William E. Brock will open the meeting with the keynote speech at 9 a.m., Monday, March 30.

Other distinguished speakers include Thomas R. Donahue, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO; Stanley C. Gault, chairman of the board of NAM; and Colleen Dewhurst, president of the Actor's Equity Association. Full program details will be included in a public announcement scheduled for release at a later date.

The two-day event will feature management and labor representatives, family experts, government officials and others who are concerned about the dramatic changes occurring in the labor force and the family.

Registration for the conference is $100. Hotel reservations must be made directly with the Omni Shoreham, Washington, D.C. 20008, (202) 234-0700.

For information about the conference program, please contact Richard Shore, U.S. Department of Labor, (202) 357-0473. For registration information, please contact Patricia Presley on (310) 777-8701.

# # #

Week of October 6, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN AUGUST 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.5 percent from July to August after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This increase stemmed from a 0.5 percent increase in average hourly earnings and a 0.3 percent increase in average weekly hours, which was partially offset by a 0.2 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.7 percent between August of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.0 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.5 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $305.02 in August 1986, compared with $299.90 a year earlier.

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power was unchanged between July and August. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.0 percent. (See tables 1 and 2.) The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

WEEK OF OCTOBER 6, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

About 28 percent of all women workers in nonagricultural industries held part-time jobs (less than 35 hours a week) in 1985, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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In 1985 more than 66 percent of all part-time workers were women, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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About 51 million women 16 years of age and over were working or looking for work in 1985. Ten years earlier about 37 million women were in the civilian labor force, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/20/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
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Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of October 20, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

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BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE LENDS HIS TIME TO THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM

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Week of October 20, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $625,000 FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 2 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock announced a total of $625,000 in grants for black and other dislocated workers in Minnesota and Virginia who are displaced due to plant closures

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"We are committed to assisting American workers permanently displaced from their jobs," Secretary Brock stated. "Through JTPA, these workers will have a chance to learn new skills to adapt to an ever-changing job market."

The Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training will receive $500,000 to assist up to 480 taconite workers displaced as a result of the closure of the Reserve Mining Company mine in Babbitt, and the mine's processing plant in Silver Bay. The areas affected include the counties of Aitkin, Carlton, Cook, Itasca, Koochiching, Lake and St. Louis (excluding the city of Duluth). Workers will receive assessment, skill training, and job search through a contract with the Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency. Job development and counseling will be provided through the local re-employment center. Relocation assistance and supportive services, such as child care, health services, legal assistance,financial and drug and alcohol abuse counseling, will also be available.

Virginia's Bay Consortium Private Industry Council, Inc., will receive $125,000 to assist up to 75 fishing industry workers dislocated as a result of the closure of Standard Products, Inc., in Reedville. The areas affected are Lancaster, Northumberland, Richmond and Westmoreland counties. Workers will receive assessment, job search assistance, remedial education, on-the-job or classroom training, and job placement and relocation assistance.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition, or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of October 20, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE LENDS HIS TIME TO THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS PROGRAM

DALLAS -- Joe Nash is very familiar with the problems of the handicapped, including their limitations and their abilities. But he is also keenly aware of their potential and their courage. That's one of the reasons he has become deeply involved with the Special Olympics program here.

Nash works for the U.S. Department of Labor's Employment Standards Administration (ESA) here. He is the area director for ESA's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs.

Among his duties, Nash is responsible for the day-to-day administration and enforcement of Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, which protects the employment rights of the handicapped.

The act prohibits most employers doing business with the federal government from discrimination in employment against handicapped persons.

Recently, at the Special Olympics field events which were held at Southern Methodist University here, Nash was busy directing volunteers to the various events.

The university's playing field was alive with activity. On one side, contestants in wheelchairs lined up for a race; in another area, others with crutches and braces prepared to compete in a relay; in the center of the field, young athletes were attempting high jumps and broad jumps. And in the middle of all the activity was Joe Nash, lending his support to the entire effort.

By the end of the day Nash was worn out, but experiencing the kind of exhaustion that can only come from having truly accomplished something worthwhile. And as this year's Special Olympics was coming to a close, Joe had once again played a key role in its success.

In the Dallas-Fort Worth area, the Special Olympics is sponsored by the Kiwanis Clubs of Dallas and Circle 10 Council, Boy Scouts of America. Nash is an active member of both organizations and serves as a member of the advisory board of the Circle 10 Council.

For the past several years Nash has served as coordinator of volunteers for the Special Olympics. His task is to recruit over 600 community volunteers who help over 850 mentally retarded competitors and their 250 coaches.

Nash says, "The goal is not to win, but to try, to experience, not to conquer. No records are broken, except those of courage, determination and sportsmanship."

(more)

In 1984, Nash approached the Community Relations Committee of the Dallas-Fort Worth Federal Executive Board to seek its endorsement of the Special Olympics. The endorsement came--followed shortly by over 200 federal employees volunteering their time and support to the program as well.

That day, when the Special Olympics were held, Joe Nash could have been in a hundred other places, but he was where he wanted to be.

###

Week of October 20, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.4 percent seasonally adjusted from August to September, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported.

This was about the same as the 0.3 percent rise in August and followed declines in 5 of the first 7 months of the year.

Prices received by producers of intermediate goods increased 0.5 percent in September, after declining in 7 of the first 8 months of the year. Crude material prices were also up 0.5 percent over the month, following a 0.2 percent dip in August and a 1.2 percent advance a month before.

Substantially higher prices for energy were responsible for much of the September increase at all three stages of processing. Energy prices had generally been decreasing rapidly earlier in 1986. Prices for foods and foodstuffs, however, turned down in September, after several months of advances. Price indexes for most goods other than foods and energy continued to rise moderately.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods fell 0.3 percent to 287.5 (1967=100).

From September 1985 to September 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index moved down 0.9 percent. During the same 12-month period, prices for consumer foods climbed 6.2 percent, but the index for energy goods declined 33.6 percent. Prices for other kinds of commodities were much less volatile over the same span: Consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 2.9 percent, and the capital equipment index advanced 2.7 percent. Prices for intermediate goods decreased 3.7 percent in the 12 months ended in September 1986, while the crude materials index dropped 5.6 percent.

# # #

WEEK OF OCTOBER 20, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The average woman worker 16 years of age in 1979-80 could expect to spend 29.3 years of her life in the labor force, this compared with 39.1 years for a 16-year-old man, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Women accounted for over 44 percent of all persons in the civilian labor force in 1985. Among these, half of all black workers were women; 44 percent of all white workers were women; and 39 percent of all Hispanic workers were women, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women represented 61 percent of all persons 16 years old and over who had incomes below the poverty level in 1984, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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10/27/86

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Week of October 27, 1986

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Week of October 27, 1986

LABOR DEPARTMENT SEEKS TO INCREASE NUMBER OF BLACK, OTHER FEMALE MANAGERS

WASHINGTON -- In a effort to increase the representation of black and other women in higher level federal jobs, the U.S. Department of Labor is encouraging its employees to apply for participation in the upcoming session of the Women's Executive Leadership Program.

The program, which is sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management, is designed to to identify and develop talented women who have potential for managerial and executive level positions.

Elaine B. Murrell, the Labor Department's Federal Women's Program coordinator, called the effort an excellent one because "it gives these exceptional employees the opportunity to further utilize their outstanding skills on the executive level, especially minority women."

The 12-month program will provide participants with the training and developmental experiences needed to prepare for future opportunities as supervisors, managers and executives in the federal government.

Program participants will participate in formal classroom training, focus on key executive skills, receive rotational assignments designed to give practical management experience and exposure and participate in a one-week workshop designed to clarify the different roles of the three levels of management.

The program is open to full-time permanent employees, grades GS-9 through GS-12, on a nationwide basis.

###

Week of October 27, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT EMPLOYEE CITED FOR SERVING AS ROLE MODEL, MENTOR

SAN FRANCISCO -- Bobbie Batton, a black woman employed by the U.S. Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) here, has been recognized for serving as an outstanding role model and mentor to fellow employees.

Batton received an award from the department's regional Federal Women's Program Committee at its annual luncheon commemorating women's suffrage.

Batton works as a complaint monitor, responsible for screening and the disposition of discrimination complaints that are filed with the OFCCP. During her 30-year federal career, she has received awards for special achievement and superior performance.

Batton said she believes in helping people. She has trained clerical employees in her office to help improve their skills. She works with teenagers in San Francisco's Bayview-Hunter's Point community, assisting them with drug-related problems and teaching them secretarial skills. She also performs volunteer public relations work for the San Francisco Senior Citizens Community Choir.

The Federal Women's Program Committee is a part of the department's equal employment opportunity program. The committee sponsors activities aimed at enhancing employment and advancement opportunities for women.

###

Week of October 27, 1986

BLACK EMPLOYEE WINS FIRST LABOR DEPARTMENT GOLF TOURNAMENT

WASHINGTON -- Wesley H. Lacey fired a one-over-par 72 to win the first annual U.S. Department of Labor golf tournament at Lake Arbor Country Club in Mitchellville, Md.

Lacey received a $25 U.S. Saving Bond and his name will be engraved on a trophy that will be kept in an appropriate place in the department's headquarters building here.

Eighty-five participants, including Secretary of Labor William E. Brock, competed for prizes in six flights during the one-day tourney.

An enthusiastic Lacey said it "feels great" to have won the tournament. "I always like to win," he added.

Lacey began golfing in 1962 during his senior year at Norfolk State University in Norfolk, Va.

Lacey is chief of the Division of Compensation Benefits in the Labor Department's Office of Accounting. He has been employed with the department for nearly 18 years.

###

WEEK OF OCTOBER 27, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The number of black female-headed families more than doubled between 1970 and 1985. In 1985, 44 percent of all black families were headed by women, compared with 23 percent of Hispanic origin families and 13 percent of white families, according to a fact sheet on working women issues by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

The educational attainment for women maintaining families is below that for all family types. They are less likely to have completed high school or attended or graduated from college than the householder in other family groups, according to a fact sheet on working women issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

###

Because average income among families maintained by women is low, proportionately more live below the poverty line than other families. In 1984, more than 1 of 3 families maintained by a woman was poor, compared with 1 of 14 other families, according to a fact sheet on working women issued by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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11/3/86

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Week of November 3, 1986

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Week of Novermber 3, 1986

SEMERAD, WINDOM ANNOUNCE JOINT PROJECT FOR BLACK, OTHER TEEN PARENTS

WASHINGTON -- Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad and HHS Assistant Secretary for Health Robert E. Windom, M.D., announced a total of $500,000 in grants to six communities around the country to provide vocational and educational training and health care to black and other teenage parents.

The six sites and the amounts they will receive are: Camden, N.J.,--$86,187; Houston, Tex.,--$86,187; Salem, Ore.,--$69,065; San Francisco, Calif.,--$86,187; Savannah, Ga.,--$86,187; and Tucson, Ari.,--$86,187. The grants have been awarded to communities with existing Adolescent Family Life projects, and will increase the ability of teenage parents to become economically self-sufficient.

"Teenage parents have multiple needs--for remedial education, health care, vocational training and emotional support," Assistant Secretary Semerad said. These demonstration projects show that we can integrate the health, social, training and employment needs of these young people."

"The goal is to help adolescent parents--both young women and young men--become responsible, caring and contributing members of their families and communities," said Dr. Windom. "This intensive and comprehensive approach promises long-term gains for both the person assisted and for society in general."

Each of the six sites will examine different ways to increase the employability of teen parents, including services for teen fathers, linkage with vocational schools, and assistance to young mothers from difficult family situations.

Pending availability of funds, these grants will continue for a second year.

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Week of November 3, 1986

LABOR FORCE OF THE FUTURE WILL BE ´MORE HEAVILY BLACK,´ NORWOOD SAYS

WASHINGTON -- "The most striking fact about the labor force of the future is that it will be more heavily black and female," according to Commissioner of Labor Statistics Janet Norwood.

In remarks delivered to the 40th anniversary convocation of the Institute of Industrial Relations of the University of California at Los Angeles, Norwood, who heads the U.S. Department of Labor´s Bureau of Labor Statistics, described some of the changes in the nation´s labor force, industry mix, compensation practices and industrial relations.

She said the black share of the labor force will continue to grow during the rest of the current decade, and by the early 1990´s nearly 1 in every 5 new entrants to the labor force will be black.

"Since minority youth tend to have less education than white youth, and many more blacks than whites are concentrated in inner city areas, we can expect that this group may need assistance to prepare for the world of work," Norwood said.

She also noted that by 1995, a significant number of minority youth who have not prospered in the labor market as well as the rest of the population will reach the prime working age without having gained successful employment experiences.

Focusing her remarks on the nation´s economy, the commissioner told her audience that the U.S. economy´s ability to adjust to the dramatic changes of the recent past bodes well for the future.

"Unlike many other industrialized nations, we have consistently provided employment for our growing labor force, with job expansion pausing only briefly during recessions," Norwood declared.

"Our economy has absorbed the baby boom generation and the sharp increase in women´s labor force expansion in the service-producing sector. Currently, about 7 in every 10 Americans work in a service-producing industry. Indeed, the service-producing sector has gained nearly 30 million jobs since 1969; in contrast, employment in goods-producing industries is barely above the level at which it stood in 1969," Norwood said.

###

Week of November 3, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings decreased 0.3 percent from August to September after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor.

This decrease stemmed from a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours and a 0.3 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W). This increase was partially offset by a 0.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings.

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.3 percent between September of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 1.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.4 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings were unchanged. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $307.47 in September 1986, compared with $303.45 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power was unchanged between August and September. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 0.6 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of November 3, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--SEPTEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.5 percent before seasonal adjustment in September to a level of 330.2 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in September, the CPI-U has increased 1.8 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical-Workers (CPI-W) also increased 0.5 percent in September, prior to seasonal adjustment. The September 1986 CPI-W level of 324.9 (1967=100) was 1.4 percent higher than the index in September 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in September, following a 0.2 percent increase in August. The energy index, reflecting the turnaround in petroleum-based energy prices, rose 0.7 percent in September, following substantial declines in the 2 preceding months. Food prices rose in September, but the increase was smaller than in August because of sharp declines in poultry and egg prices. Excluding food and energy, the CPI-U rose 0.3 percent in September, the same as the average monthly increase for the first 8 months of 1986.

During the first 9 months of 1986, the CPI-U advanced at a seasonally adjusted annual rate (SAAR) of 0.6 percent. This compares with annual increases of about 4 percent in each of the preceding 4 years. The sharp drop in energy prices--down at a 22.6 SAAR during the first 3 quarters of 1986--was almost entirely responsible for the deceleration in the overall index. Excluding energy, the CPI-U has risen at an annual rate of 3.7 percent thus far in 1986, compared with increases between 4 and 4.5 percent in each of the prior 4 years. The annual rates of changes for selected groups during the last several years and the first 9 months of 1986 are shown below.

Annual percent changes

	12 months ended December				SAAR 9-months ended Sept.
	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986
All Items	3.9	3.8	4.0	3.8	0.6
Energy	1.3	-.5	.2	1.8	-22.6
Energy Commodities	-5.0	-3.2	-1.9	3.4	-36.6
Energy Services	14.1	4.1	3.4	-0.5	-.4
All Items less energy	4.2	4.4	4.5	4.0	3.7
Food	3.1	2.6	3.8	2.7	3.7
Shelter	2.4	4.7	5.2	6.0	5.1
Used cars	10.9	14.4	7.0	-1.9	-5.7
All other items	5.6	4.1	4.1	4.2	3.9
Other Commodities	4.1	3.3	2.3	3.0	2.5
Other Services	7.3	4.9	6.0	5.4	5.3

-more-

The transportation index rose 0.4 percent in September, following sharp declines in each of the 2 preceding months. Gasoline prices advanced 2.5 percent in September, but they were still at the same level as in mid-1979 and were 37.2 percent below their peak level of March 1981. Used car prices--up 0.2 percent in September-- registered their first increase since January. New car prices also rose 0.2 percent in September, following seasonal adjustment. On the other hand, automobile finance charges, largely reflecting manufacturers' sponsored financing, dropped 6.1 percent in September. These charges have declined 14.5 percent during the first 9 months of 1986. Automobile insurance costs rose 0.6 percent in September and have increased 13.6 percent in the past 12 months. The index for public transportation rose 0.1 percent in September, following no change in August.

The food and beverage index rose 0.4 percent in September. Grocery store food prices also rose 0.4 percent, after registering increases of 1.3 and 1.2 percent in July and August, respectively. A much smaller increase in the index for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was principally responsible for the slowdown. In particular, poultry and egg prices, which had risen sharply in July and August, declined 2.2 and 8.0 percent, respectively, in September. Beef and pork prices rose substantially again in September, but by less than August. In the past 4 months, beef prices have risen 5.2 percent and pork prices 16.6 percent. Partially offseting the slowdown in prices for meats, poultry, fish, and eggs was an acceleration in fruit and vegetable prices--up 1.4 percent in September. Each of the other major grocery store food groups reflected very little price movement in September. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.5 and 0.2 percent, respectively.

The housing component rose 0.2 percent in September, the same as in August. A larger advance in shelter costs--up 0.5 percent in September--was offset by a decline in the index for fuel and other utilities and a smaller increase in the index for household furnishings and operations. The index for fuel and other utilities turned down again in September, reflecting a sharp drop in the index for natural gas, which declined 2.8 percent in September and was 6.2 percent lower than a year ago. On the other hand, prices for fuel oil--up 1.1 percent--and charges for electricity--up 0.4 percent--turned upward in September. The increase in fuel oil prices was the first since last December. Despite the September advance, fuel oil prices have declined 32.2 percent in the first 9 months of 1986, and 39.4 percent from their peak level of April 1981. Charges for telephone services decreased 0.4 percent in September.

The index for apparel and upkeep registered its third consecutive increase, advancing 0.8 percent in September. Clothing prices, which declined at a 3.6 percent annual rate in the first half of 1986, have advanced at a 7.8 percent annual rate in the third quarter, reflecting the introduction of higher priced fall and winter merchandise. Charges for apparel services rose 0.6 percent in September, their largest increase since January.

-more-

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in September, the same as in August. The index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.5 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.7 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 1.0 and 0.4 percent, respectively.

The index for entertainment rose 0.3 percent in September, after registering no change in August. An increase in fees for participant sports more than offset a decline in prices for entertainment commodities.

The other goods and services component decreased 0.1 percent on a seasonally adjusted basis in September, reflecting declines in the indexes for tuition and other school fees, school books and supplies, and personal care. (Prior to seasonal adjustment, the indexes for tuition and school books rose 6.8 and 3.3 percent, respectively.)

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.3 percent in September.

Table B. Percent Changes in CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)

Expenditure category	Seasonally adjusted								Unadjusted
	Changes from preceding month 1986							Compound annual rate 3-mos. ended Sept. '86	12-mos. ended Sept. '86
	Mar.	Apr.	May.	June	July	Aug.	Sept.		
All items	-.6	-.4	.2	.5	0	.2	.3	2.0	1.4
Food and beverages	.2	.2	.4	.2	.9	.9	.3	9.1	4.4
Housing	.2	.3	-.1	.5	0	.3	.2	1.9	2.7
Apparel and upkeep	-.2	.2	-.1	-.3	.2	.9	.7	7.4	1.1
Transportation	-3.0	-2.6	.2	.8	-1.3	-1.0	.4	-7.5	-6.0
Medical care	.8	.7	.6	.7	.5	.5	.6	6.9	7.6
Entertainment	0	.1	.3	.5	.1	.1	.2	1.8	3.2
Other goods and services	.4	.4	.2	.3	1.0	.6	-.1	5.9	5.7

# # #

WEEK OF NOVEMBER 3, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The average female woman worker is as well educated as the average male worker. In March 1985, both had completed a median of 12.8 years of schooling, according to a fact sheet on women workers published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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Women represented 61 percent of all persons 16 years old and over who had incomes below the poverty level in 1984, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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A 1985 study by the Small Business Administration reported that more women are choosing to be entrepreneurs. The number of women-owned businesses in the United States rose from 1.9 million in 1977 to 2.6 million by 1982, according to a fact sheet on working women published by the Women's Bureau of the U.S. Department of Labor.

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11/10/86

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NEWS
from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of November 10, 1986

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BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAYS

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Week of November 10, 1986

´EDUCATION IS WHERE IT´S AT,´ BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Education figures prominantly in the career plans of those who want better-paying jobs, said Eunice Thomas, a special assistant to the Secretary of Labor for minority and women´s affairs.

Thomas, addressing a career awareness conference at Claflin College in Orangeburg, N.C., said, "Education is it. Education is where it´s at... No one´s got a better shot at a fine and elegant lifestyle than the college graduate.

"I can´t impress on you strongly enough the importance of your preparation for profitable employment," she said.

"It is not a question of grabbing some job, any job. It is a question of careful, conscious choice," Thomas said.

Offering reassurance to those concerned about special obstacles in their career paths because of their race or sex, Thomas said between August 1982 and August 1986, blacks showed employment gains of 15.6 percent, compared to only 9.4 percent for whites.

Total job growth in those four years was 15 percent for black men over age 20, and only 7.9 percent for white men over 20 she said. Black women over 20 showed showed gains of over 16 percent, compared to white women´s employment growth of only a little over 13 percent.

"So don´t let anyone tell you you´re licked before you start because it isn´t true," she remarked.

Citing data on college graduates and employment, Thomas noted that they are most likely to be in the labor force and least likely to be unemployed. She also pointed out that college graduates continue to hold the highest paying professional and managerial jobs.

Thomas then cited some projections prepared by the Bureau of Labor Statistics about where the trend will be towards the greatly increased number of jobs between now and 1995.

Engineers, architects and surveyors will be in demand. Specialists in the computer and mathematical fields will experience a boost in occupations available, while accountants and auditors will be in greater demand, the special assistant reported.

(more)

In addition, she noted that employment interviewers, computer systems analysts, as well as those in the fields of computer programming and operating, and electronic data processing will see enormous growth in occupations.

Thomas encouraged young women to look closely at their career majors.

"Women earn about one-half of the bachelor degrees granted and one-third of the doctorates," she said.

"But it's a sad fact that despite this, women on the average continue to earn less money than men. Women earn about 64 cents compared to every dollar a man earns," she added.

Thomas said a major reason for this seems to be the continued concentration of women in relatively low-paying occupations and in the lower status jobs within higher-paying occupations.

Other reasons may include that women enter and leave the labor force more often than men, which means they get less work experience. And women are more likely to work in part-time jobs.

Despite these factors, Thomas said, "women are in the labor force to stay.

"Well over half of all women in this country aged 16 and over are working or looking for work, and about a million more join the crowd every year.

"As more women open their eyes--and their brains--to the full range of career choices, we'll see that the earnings gap between men's and women's pay closes more and more rapidly," she said.

"All of the successful people doing great things in industry and business were not born at the top of the ladder or even halfway up," Thomas said. "They had to get it together for themselves."

Thomas told her audience that the world needs them and more people like them "to fight for the continued economic development of our nation, keeping us strong, keeping us on top and keeping us ahead in the world market."

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Week of November 10, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1.4 MILLION FOR BLACK, OTHER DISLOCATED WORKERS IN 4 STATES

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced a total of $1,366,379 in grants for black and other dislocated workers in California, New York, Tennessee and Virginia. The workers in California, New York and Virginia are displaced due to plant closures and mass layoffs. In Tennessee, farmers face the loss of their land and family farms due to adverse economic conditions.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA), and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

The Peoples' Choice, Inc., in Los Angeles, California will receive $250,000 to assist up to 100 long-term unemployed dislocated workers. The project will serve residents of the city of Compton. Workers will receive classroom and on-the-job training, job counseling, job search assistance and support services.

General Electric's Turbine Business Operations project in Schenectady, New York, will receive $300,000 to assist up to 300 of its employees permanently laid off from its plant in Schenectady. Workers at the plant were displaced due to declining production and consolidation of its facilities. The areas affected are Schenectady, Rensselaer and Albany counties. An on-site worker assistance center has been established by the union local and the New York Job Service. Workers will receive job search and relocation assistance, assessment and testing, adult basic education, customized retraining, on-the-job training, and job development and placement services. Supportive services will include stress and financial counseling, and referrals to social services.

The Tennessee Department of Labor will receive $500,000 to assist up to 385 farmers dislocated as a result of farm foreclosures and economic difficulties. The areas affected include 43 counties in the north central and western part of the state. Workers will receive assessment, counseling, remedial education, job search skills, classroom and on-the-job training,

-more-

supportive services, and job development and placement. The state of Tennessee will work closely with the Farmers Home Association (FmHA) to provide services to farmers who have defaulted on farm mortgages. Farmers and their families who have not been able to renew their farm leases, or who have lost or will lose their farms, will be eligible for the program.

Virginia's South Central Private Industry Council will receive $316,379 to assist up to 200 sewing machine operators dislocated as a result of the closure of the Levi Strauss Company plant in Blackstone. The area affected is Nottoway county. Workers will receive assessment, remedial education, testing, skills and on-the-job training, job search, and job development and placement. Supportive services will include child care services, transportation assistance, and health care, since many of the workers are single heads of households.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

SEMERAD ANNOUNCES MAJOR STUDY OF WORKPLACE TRAINING

WASHINGTON -- Innovative ways to make learning on the job more effective will be the focus of a new Labor Department study, Assistant Secretary of Labor Roger D. Semerad announced.

A two-year, $750,000 grant has been awarded to the American Society for Training and Development (ASTD), an Alexandria, Va.,-based training and development firm, to evaluate entry and mid-level workplace training methods used by employers in the private sector. The study will examine ways to enhance basic skills and remedial education training in selected service and manufacturing industries.

"We want to look at techniques used in the private sector that can be adapted to public sector job training programs under the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA)," Semerad said. "This study will enable us to keep pace with changing technologies in the work place as we move toward the year 2000."

"What we will learn will help us develop training programs to improve the quality of productivity in the American workforce," Semerad continued. "This is essential if we are to compete in international markets."

A major part of the study will be a compilation of the best practices for providing workplace learning, which will be developed through surveys and consultation with leading practitioners in the field, and observation and analysis of actual practices.

Key aspects of the study will include an examination of programs to retrain employees dislocated by economic change or displaced by new technology. ASTD will also assess basic skills training (on-the-job training in reading, math and workplace adaptation) for disadvantaged persons and new immigrants.

# # #

Week of November 10, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) is operated on the basis of a program year, beginning on July 1 and ending on June 30 of the following year, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act was enacted into law in October 1982 and became fully operational in October 1983, according to the U.S. Department of Labor's annual report for fiscal year 1985. The law is administered by the Labor Department's Employment and Training Administration.

# # #

The Job Training Partnership Act is sharply focused on training with a legislatively mandated requirement that at least 70 percent of all funds be used for this purpose, according to the U.S.Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

Data for the period July 1, 1984 to June 30, 1985, indicate that of new participants entering Job Training Partnership Act programs, 94 percent were economically disadvantaged, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

11/17/86

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NEWS
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Week of November 17, 1986

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LITTLE CHANGE IN OCTOBER, BLS REPORTS

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OF NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS

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Federal Office Bldg.
909 First Ave.
Seattle, WA 98174
206-442-7620

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Week of November 17, 1986

BLACK WOMAN HEADS WOMEN'S BUREAU, PLEDGES STRONG ADVOCACY ROLE

WASHINGTON-- Shirley M. Dennis, a former Pennsylvania state government official and a strong advocate of Women's issues, has been sworn in as director of the U.S. Department of Labor's Women's Bureau.

She becomes the 10th director of the 66-year-old bureau, which was created in 1920 by an act of Congress to promote employment opportunities for women.

Dennis, who served as Secretary of the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs, becomes the chief federal advocate for American working women. Her nomination was announced by President Reagan in July 1986, and she was confirmed by the Senate on Oct. 18, 1986.

Secretary of Labor William E. Brock welcomed her to the Women's Bureau post with words of praise and encouragement. "Shirley Dennis' energy, creativity and experience will make a unique addition to the Labor Department and the efforts we are making on behalf of women in the labor force," Brock noted. "Her vision and dedication will be especially valued as we work to bring about social changes needed to accommodate the work and family responsibilities of American women and men."

The influx of women into the labor force, particularly among wives and mothers, is one of the major issues being addressed by the Labor Department under Brock's leadership. The Women's Bureau, which has a staff of 80 people and a budget of $5 million, serves as a policy advisor to the Secretary of Labor on working women's issues. In addition to its Washington, D.C., headquarters, the Women's Bureau has offices in 10 regional cities across the country.

Dennis said that under her direction the Women's Bureau will continue advocating employer-sponsored child-care programs, flexible work schedules and benefit packages, and other work-family needs. Education and outreach efforts will be emphasized, she noted. Other programs of the bureau will also continue, including helping employers and employees deal with the impact of high technology, providing direction for teenage women, encouraging corporate advancement for women and targeting employment and career opportunities for all women.

Dennis, who was designated by Redbook Magazine as one of the 12 outstanding women in Pennsylvania in 1977, served as secretary of the Department of Community Affairs under Governor Richard Thornburgh from 1980 until now.

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In addition to her duties in that office, Dennis served as chairperson of the Pennsylvania Martin Luther King, Jr., Holiday Commission and as a member of numerous Governor's committees.

She also represented the state at the national level, chairing the National Leadership Conference of Women Executives in State Government and serving as a member of the Department of Housing and Urban Development Task Force on Minority Youth Employment and of the National Council for a Black Economic Agenda.

Dennis joined the Pennsylvania Department of Community Affairs in 1979, serving first as executive deputy secretary and then as acting secretary before being named to head the agency in April 1980.

From 1971 to 1979 Dennis was managing director of the Housing Association of Delaware Valley, a United Way-supported housing research and advocacy agency in Philadelphia. Before that, she served as housing director for the Philadelphia Urban League and worked as an equal opportunity specialist for the Philadelphia Redevelopment Authority.

Dennis has been active in numerous civic groups in Pennsylvania and in Philadelphia. In 1985, she served as a member of that city's delegation attending the U.N. Decade for Women Conference held in Nairobi, Kenya.

She has received over 100 awards and honors, including the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Community Service Award in the Political Field, 1981; and the Black Women's Educational Alliance Outstanding Community Services Award, 1982. She also has been recognized in Who's Who in American Politics, 1983; Foremost Women of the Twentieth Century, 1984; and Who's Who Among Black Americans, 1985.

Dennis, who has a degree in business administration from Temple University, is married to William D.C. Dennis, president of the Board of Commissioners of Abington Township, Pa., and has three daughters and one grandson.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

UMEMPLOYMENT RATE FOR BLACKS SHOWED LITTLE CHANGE IN OCTOBER, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was 14.4 percent in October, showing little change from the previous month's rate of 14.8 percent, the U.S. Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The October unemployment rate for whites remained steady at 6.0 percent. The rate for Hispanic workers, 10.5 percent, showed little change from the 11.1 percent rate of the previous month.

The jobless rate for black adult men was 13.5 percent in October, compared to 13.7 percent in September. For adult black women, the rate was 12.4 percent in October, compared to 12.5 in September. The rate for black teenagers was 34.8 percent in October, compared to 38.3 percent in September.

For the entire nation, the BLS reported that employment rose and unemployment was unchanged in October.

The overall unemployment rate was 6.9 percent, and the civilian worker rate was 7.0 percent.

Civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--increased by 350,000 in October to 110.2 million. Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the monthly survey of establishments--rose by 300,000 to 100.7 million. Virtually all of the payroll job increase occurred in the service-producing sector.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was little changed in October at 8.2 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker unemployment rate held steady over the month at 7.0 percent, about the same as a year earlier. Unemployment rates among the major labor force groups--including adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (17.6 percent), whites (6.0 percent), blacks (14.4 percent), and Hispanics (10.5 percent)--showed little or no change from September.

The mean and median duration of unemployment were also little changed, at 15.2 and 7.0 weeks, respectively. There was, however, a decline of 235,000 in the number of individuals who were unemployed for 15 weeks or more.

Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment grew by 350,000 over the month to 110.2 million, seasonally adjusted. Increases occurred among persons on part-time schedules, both among those working part time voluntarily and for economic reasons. Overall employment gains were concentrated among adult women and teenagers. The proportion of the civilian population that is employed edged up to 60.8 percent in October.

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The civilian labor force increased to 118.5 million in October, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force has grown by 2.0 million (after adjustment is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment rose by 300,000 in October, seasonally adjusted, to a level of 100.7 million. Over-the-month increases occurred in slightly more than half of the 185 industries in the BLS index of diffusion.

Almost all of the October job growth was in the service-producing sector, with particularly strong advances in services (95,000) and retail trade (80,000). Although these two industry divisions comprise only about 40 percent of payroll jobs, they have accounted for 70 percent of the 2.3 million over-the-year job expansion. Elsewhere in the sector, modest employment gains were registered in local government; wholesale trade; and finance, insurance, and real estate. The job total in transportation and public utilities was essentially unchanged even after accounting for an increase in strike activity.

Little or no job growth occurred in each of the industries in the goods-producing sector. Employment in manufacturing was little changed, after decreasing by 190,000 in the first 9 months of this year. Mining and its oil and gas extraction component, which had both declined for 17 consecutive months, held steady in October. After adjustment for seasonality, the job total in construction was unchanged for the second straight month.

Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.6 in October, down 0.1 hour after seasonal adjustment. In manufacturing, the average workweek declined 0.2 hour, and overtime hours were down 0.1 hour.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls was unchanged at 118.3 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index edged down 0.1 percent to 92.6.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings increased 0.6 percent in October, and average weekly earnings increased 0.3 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 2 cents to $8.83, while average weekly earnings were down by $1.07 to $306.40. Compared to a year earlier, average hourly earnings rose by 19 cents, while average weekly earnings were up $4.86.

-more-

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 170.3 (1977=100) in October, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.4 percent from September. For the 12 months ended in October, the increase was 2.5 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 0.6 percent during the 12-month period ended in September.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

BROCK ANNOUNCES $1 MILLION FOR DISLOCATED WORKERS, INCLUDING BLACKS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced that a total of $1,025,000 in grants for dislocated workers, including blacks in Georgia and Washington who are displaced due to plant closures and mass layoffs.

The funds are authorized under Title III of the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and will provide dislocated workers with retraining and other supportive services to re-enter the workforce.

"JTPA is the job training lifeline to those who have lost their jobs through no fault of their own," Brock stated. "This partnership is designed to address not only the immediate needs of displaced workers, but long-term needs as well."

--The Georgia Department of Labor will receive $400,000 to assist up to 350 production workers dislocated as a result of the closure of the Kendall McGaw Laboratories, Inc. plant in Milledgeville. The areas affected are Baldwin, Hancock, Jasper, Johnson, Laurens, Putnam, Washington and Wilkinson counties. Workers will receive job search assistance, job development and placement services, classroom and on-the-job training, and relocation assistance. Supportive services include meals and child care while in training or during job search, and financial services to defray the costs of transportation.

The state of Washington will receive two grants for dislocated workers.

-- The Washington Employment Security Department will receive $225,000 to assist up to 75 machine industry workers dislocated as a result of the Western Gear Machinery Company closure in Everett (Snohomish County). Workers will receive career redirection assessment and evaluation, customized vocational/institutional skills training, on-the-job training, relocation assistance and supportive services.

-more-

-- The Washington Employment Security Department will also receive $400,000 to assist up to 330 electronic, primary metal, textile and food products workers affected by a number of plant closures in the rural eastern part of the state. The industries include Key Tronics (Newport); Kaiser and Square D (Spokane); All Seasons Apparel (Wenatchee); and Associated Grocers (Yakima). The areas affected are Chelan, Pend Oreille, Spokane and Yakima counties. Workers will receive job search assistance, skills training, remedial education, on-the-job training, and relocation assistance. Supportive services will include reimbursement for transportation, health care, temporary shelter, financial counseling and child care.

The dislocated worker program aids workers who have been, or are about to be, laid off due to technological change, foreign competition or the permanent closing of a plant or facility. Training is also provided for workers who are unlikely to return to their previous industry or occupation, with little prospect for local employment or reemployment.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

LABOR SECRETARY HAILS LAW STRENGTHENING CIVILIAN JOB RIGHTS OF NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE MEMBERS

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has called President Reagan's signing of a new law protecting National Guard and Reserve members from hiring discrimination "an important step in strengthening both workers' rights and our national defense."

The Omnibus Veterans' Benefits Improvement and Health Care Authorization Act of 1986, signed by President Reagan on October 28, extends protections already granted by law to employed National Guard and reserve members covering unlawful discharge or discrimination on the job, to include hiring.

"By assuring that workers are also protected against hiring discrimination based on their status as part-time service members, the new law enhances our efforts to widen job opportunities for men and women who serve in our nation's Armed Forces," Secretary Brock said.

Brock noted that America is "more dependent than ever" upon the National Guard and reserves for its national defense readiness. The new law will help strenghthen efforts to recruit and retain National Guard and reserve personnel, who periodically must participate in training away from their civilian jobs to maintain and increase their readiness, he said.

The Veterans' Reemployment Rights Act requires that reservists and National Guard members be granted leaves of absence by their employers to participate in military drills or active duty for training. Protections against unlawful discharge of or discrimination against employed Guard and Reserve members have been in effort since 1968.

All of the protections are administered by the U.S. Department of Labor's Veterans' Employment and Training Service.

# # #

Week of November 17, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Labor Department's Wage and Hour Division assessed $1,021,603 in child labor civil money penalties against 758 employers who were found to be illegally employing 6,330 minors, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal year 1985.

# # #

The Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation recovered more than $8 million during fiscal year 1985 as a result of debt collection activities from responsible mine operators, insurance carriers, beneficiaries, and medical providers, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report.

# # #

The Division of Coal Mine Workers' Compensation reported that during the fiscal year, approximately $591 million was paid in benefits to coal miners, eligible survivors, and medical providers, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985. Of this amount, approximately $492 was paid to miners and their survivors as monthly benefit payments.

# # #

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Week of November 24, 1986

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CAREER PLANS AND TRAINING, PANEL SAYS

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL HONORED
BY FEDERAL WOMEN'S INTERAGENCY BOARD

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--OCTOBER 1986

REPORT ON QUALITY CHANGES
FOR 1987 MODEL PASSENGER CARS

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of November 24, 1986

REPORT ON QUALITY CHANGES FOR 1987 MODEL PASSENGER CARS

WASHINGTON -- The value of quality changes for the sample of 1987 model domestic passenger cars included in the Producer Price Index averaged $37.89, according to estimates of the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This change represents about 5.5 percent of the average $694.29 yearly increase in producers' prices.

The retail equivalent value of these quality changes averaged $47.13, representing about 6.1 percent of the average annual increase in manufacturers' suggested list prices of $776.38.

Estimates of the value of quality change are based on a review by BLS of data supplied by automobile producers for 20 similarly-equipped 1986 and 1987 model domestic cars priced in the Producer Price Index. One of the vehicles underwent significant content change and is not included in the price and quality change estimates. Most estimates of quality changes in this release are derived from data used in the Producer Price Index for October.

The $47.13 estimated retail level of quality change breaks down as follows:

- $1.92 for changes adopted in accordance with the Motor Vehicle Theft Law Enforcement Act of 1984, identification numbers stamped on certain parts of cars with a high incidence of theft;

- $45.21 for other quality changes, such as variations in the levels of standard or optional equipment, changes in vehicle power trains, and increases in corrosion resistance.

There is no quality allowance in these figures for Federal Motor Vehicle Safety Standard (FMVSS) 208, the passive restraint requirement, because vehicle manufacturers have not yet made that feature available on those automobiles included in the PPI sample. When the feature becomes available, it will be evaluated according to normal quality adjustment procedures.

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs completed 5,217 compliance reviews during fiscal year 1985, the largest number for any fiscal year since the program was consolidated in fiscal 1979, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal year 1985.

# # #

During fiscal year 1985, the Mine Safety and Health Administration made 68,448 coal mine inspections and investigations. Of these, 49,492 were at underground mines and 18,956 were at surface mines and noncoal producing facilities, according to the U.S. Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The Mine Safety and Health Administration investigated 205 complaints of safety- or health-related discrimination that coal mine personnel filed with the agency during the 1985 fiscal year, according to the Labor Department's Fiscal Year 1985 Annual Report. During this same period, the agency also opened 52 investigations into possible knowing or willful violations of coal mine safety or health regulations.

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL HONORED BY FEDERAL WOMEN'S INTERAGENCY BOARD

WASHINGTON -- Andre C. Whisenton of the U.S. Department of Labor has received the Service Award of the Federal Women's Interagency Board (FWIB) for his "dedicated support" of the board's goals and objectives.

The FWIB is a professional association of Federal Women Program managers from the federal agencies in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area.

FWIB is dedicated to improving employment opportunities for women in the federal sector and to enhancing the professionalism of FWP managers through various activities, including training programs.

Whisenton is director of the Labor Department's Office of Equal Employment Opportunity and Affirmative Action.

# # #

Week of November 24, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.3 percent seasonally adjusted from September to October, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. This was about the same as the increase registered in both August and September. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods fell 0.3 percent in October, in the wake of a 0.5 percent advance a month earlier. The crude materials index climbed 1.6 percent, the largest monthly rise since May.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices turned up after edging slightly lower in September. After declining in July and August and advancing in September, the index for finished energy goods turned down.

The index for finished goods other than foods and energy recorded the largest increase in a year, largely reflecting higher prices for new-model passenger cars and trucks.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 1.0 percent to 290.5 (1967=100).

From October 1985 to October 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index decreased 1.4 percent. During the same 12-month period, consumer food prices rose 5.5 percent, the index for energy goods fell 36.5 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy advanced 2.9 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 2.2 percent. The intermediate goods index declined 4.0 percent in the 12 months ended in October 1986, and crude material prices dropped 7.1 percent.

# # #

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Week of December 1, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

BLACK MANAGERS GROOMED
FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

VIRGINIA COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS
QUALIFY FOR TRADE ASSISTANCE

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Week of December 1, 1986

BLACK MANAGERS GROOMED FOR EXECUTIVE POSITIONS

WASHINGTON -- Two blacks in managerial positions with the U.S. Department of Labor are participating in the Senior Executive Service (SES) Candidate Program, a career development program which grooms selected employees for executive-level positions.

They are: Cecilia J. Bankins and Emzell Blanton.

Under the program, each participant is assigned a mentor and designs a development plan geared to broaden his or her managerial skills while increasing the pool of executive talent within the Labor Department.

The individual's career development plan will include at least two assignments to other major components within the department and assorted executive seminars.

The program's objective is to provide employees with a broad range of managerial responsibilities through assignments, management training and individual coaching from current SES members.

--Bankins, deputy director of the Labor Department's peronnel office, helps develop and implement personnel policy which covers some 18,000 employees in the Washington, D.C., area and the regional and field offices across the country. Before being named to this post in April 1985, she had been the personnel officer for the department's Employment and Training Administration since November 1977.

A native of southern Maryland and a graduate of Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, Bankins began her federal career in 1968 as a personnel intern with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in Washington, D.C.

She is the mother of two daughters, aged 17 months and 4. Her husband, Frank Davis, is an SES member with HUD here. The family lives in Wasington, D.C.

--Blanton, regional administrator, Office of Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management (OASAM) in Atlanta, Ga., provides leadership and guidance in assuring that some 2,000 employees in the region receive administrative and support services. The Atlanta region includes some 200 area and field offices in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee and Kentucky. He was named to this post in August 1982.

-more-

Before going to Atlanta, Blanton was the regional administrator for OASAM in the Chicago regional office for about two years. He began his Labor Department career in 1972 with the Occupational Safety and Health Administration office in Atlanta. He later took a two-year leave of absence to pursue his education.

The Atlanta native is a graduate of Clark College in Atlanta. He received his Masters of Business Administration degree in finance from Georgia State University and did post masters work at Florida State University.

Blanton and his wife, Eva, a teacher at Wheeler High School, Marietta, Ga., live in Atlanta with their two sons, Eric, 17, and Evan, 10.

# # #

Week of December 1, 1986

VIRGINIA COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS QUALIFY FOR TRADE ASSISTANCE

WASHINGTON -- Secretary of Labor William E. Brock has announced that up to 820 communications equipment workers, including blacks, of the General Electric (GE) Company in Lynchburg, Va., have been certified as eligible to apply for aid under the Trade Adjustment Assistance (TAA) program.

Certified workers will receive cash benefits, training, job search assistance, relocation allowances and other employment-related assistance under the provisions of the Trade Act of 1974.

Workers at GE's Communications Business Division in Lynchburg were engaged in the production of two-way land mobile radios and parts. Sales of company products declined in 1985, and again in 1986, and production fell as a result of increased imports. Anyone totally or partially separated from a job at the Lynchburg facility on or after March 25, 1985 and before Nov. 19, 1988, is eligible to apply for benefits.

The Office of Trade Adjustment Assistance conducted a fact-finding investigation, in response to a worker petition filed with the Department, which provided the basis for the certification.

The program provides trade readjustment allowances (TRA), for weeks of unemployment, for a total of 52 weeks at the same rate paid weekly for regular unemployment insurance (UI) in Virginia. Eligible workers receive 52 weeks of benefits minus the number of weeks for which they are eligible to receive UI benefits. TRA payments begin once a worker exhausts his or her eligibility for UI benefits. When enrolled in an approved training program, some workers may receive up to 26 additional weeks of TRA allowances.

The Virginia Employment Commission will administer the program through local offices.

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Week of December 1, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (FLSA) as amended, requires that most employees in the United States be paid a minimum hourly wage, and premium overtime pay after a certain number of hours. The minumum wage is $3.35 an hour, according to the U.S. Department of Labor.

# # #

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) is enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division of the department's Employment Standards Administration.

# # #

The Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) establishes minimum wage overtime pay, recordkeeping and child labor standards which affect some 63 million employees in private firms, 7.7 million employees of state and local governments, and 2.3 million federal government employees. The Act is enforced by the U.S. Department of Labor.

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IN THIS ISSUE:

ISSUES OF WORKING WOMEN 'A TOP NATIONAL PRIORITY,' SAYS BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL

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REAL EARNINGS IN OCTOBER 1986

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Week of December 8, 1986

ISSUES OF WORKING WOMEN 'A TOP NATIONAL PRIORITY,' BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL SAYS

WASHINGTON -- Shirley Dennis, new director of the Labor Department's Women's Bureau has called issues of working women "one of our top national priorities."

Writing for a column in Labor Relations Today, a bimonthly publication of the department's Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs, Dennis pointed out that, while women have always participated in the work force, "there is a major difference" between the issues of today's working women and those faced by women in the past.

In the past, women were accepted in the workforce on a temporary basis, such as during World War II, but "women today are in the work force to stay, and permanent accommodations are required," Dennis said.

Noting that the nation is heavily involved in the issues of working women, Dennis said "this is one of our top national priorities. We must bring about permanent social change to benefit working women and their families."

Dennis wrote:

"A few years ago, without a national support system, working women tried to be superwomen--perfect mothers, perfect wives, and perfect workers. In many cases what they achieved was perfect exhaustion. Fortunately, women have proven themselves in the workplace. The superwoman's cape can be left behind. But the demands we all face in balancing work and family responsibilities remain and cannot be overlooked."

"Work and family demands are not women's problems alone. Increasingly, men are becoming involved in the work-family arena. The concerns of dual-career couples, single parents, and employees with elderly or dependent relatives take their toll in the work place. Employers, unions, educators, and virtually all segments of society are addressing these issues in some way."

Dennis, who recently took charge of the Women's Bureau, praised Secretary of Labor William E. Brock for his "strong leadership role in bringing work-family life issues to the forefront."

Describing these issues as "an important frontier," Dennis said she will participate in a conference, "Work and Family Life: Seeking a New Balance," to be held March 30 and 31, 1987, in Washington, D.C. The conference is coordinated by the Bureau of Labor-Management Relations and Cooperative Programs which is headed by Stephen I. Schlossberg, deputy under secretary of labor.

As the new director of the Women's Bureau and chief federal advocate for the country's 51 million working women, Dennis pledged that the bureau would continue its efforts to work with various women's groups. She also underscored her personal commitment to develop a dialogue on the issues of work and family life as she travels around the country in the coming months.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

THE CONSUMER PRICE INDEX--OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) rose 0.1 percent before seasonal adjustment in October to a level of 330.5 (1967=100), the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. For the 12-month period ended in October, the CPI-U has increased 1.5 percent.

The Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical workers (CPI-W) was virtually unchanged in October, prior to seasonal adjustment. The October 1986 CPI-W level of 325.0 (1967=100) was 1.2 percent higher than the index in October 1985.

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI-U rose 0.2 percent in October, following an increase of 0.3 percent in September. The energy index, which had turned upward in September, declined 2.2 percent in October, reflecting decreases in the prices for electricity, motor fuel, and fuel oil. Food and shelter costs--up 0.3 and 0.4 percent, respectively--increased slightly less than in September. Excluding food, shelter, and energy, the CPI-U advanced 0.4 percent in October, after increasing 0.2 percent in September. Increases in the indexes for new cars, automobile finance charges, and automobile insurance accounted for virtually all of that acceleration.

During the first 10 months of 1986, the CPI-U rose at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 0.7 percent, held down by energy prices, which declined at an annual rate of 22.7 percent. The CPI-U excluding energy advanced at a 3.8 percent annual rate for the first 10 months of 1986 compared to a 4.0 percent increase in the 12 months ended in December 1985.

The housing component, which rose 0.2 percent in September, was virtually unchanged in October, as declines in the indexes for fuel and other utilities and household furnishings and operations offset an increase in shelter costs. Charges for electricity, reflecting a shift to lower winter rates and some rate restructuring, declined a record 4.4 percent. Fuel oil prices, which recorded their first increase of 1986 in September, turned down in October by 1.4 percent. Although charges for natural gas rose 0.9 percent in October, their prices, as well as those for fuel oil and electricity, were lower in October than at the end of 1985. Shelter costs rose 0.4 percent in October.

The transportation component rose 0.1 percent in October, following an increase of 0.4 percent in September. The turnaround in prices for motor fuels caused the smaller October advance. Gasoline prices--down 2.4 percent in October, following a similar September rise--have declined 30.8 percent in the first 10 months of 1986. As of October, gasoline prices were 38.7 percent below their peak level of March 1981. However, most other private transportation components rose more than in September. The new car index rose 0.8 percent, following a 0.2 percent rise in September. Higher priced 1987 models represented about 43 percent of the new car sample in October. (For a report on quality change for 1987 cars, see news release USDL 86-470, dated November 14, 1986). Automobile financing charges, which dropped a record 6.1 percent in September, rose 3.4 percent, largely due to the elimination of manufacturer financing concessions. Nevertheless, financing charges have declined 11.7 percent during the first 10 months of 1986. Automobile insurance costs continued to rise, advancing 2.2 percent in October and 10.7 percent thus far this year. Used car prices rose slightly for the second consecutive month, following 7 months of declines. The index for public transportation was virtually unchanged in October.

-more-

The food and beverage component increased 0.3 percent in October. Grocery store food prices rose 0.4 percent, the same as in September. Advances in the indexes for beef, fresh fruits and vegetables, and dairy products accounted for virtually all of the October increase. Beef prices rose 1.5 percent, the same as in September. Among other components of the meats, poultry, fish, and eggs category, pork, poultry, and egg prices, each declined in October. The 0.2 percent drop in pork prices follows a 16.6 percent increase during the preceding 4 months. Poultry and egg prices--down 0.7 and 0.9 percent, respectively--declined for the second consecutive month, following large increases in July and August. Fresh fruit and vegetable prices registered their fourth consecutive advance, increasing 1.6 percent in October, after declining 6.1 percent during the first 6 months of 1986. The index for dairy products rose 0.6 percent in October, largely due to an increase in milk prices. The 0.8 percent rise was the largest in 2 years. The other two components of the food and beverage index--restaurant meals and alcoholic beverages--rose 0.2 and declined 0.1 percent, respectively.

The index for apparel and upkeep--up 0.2 percent in October--registered its fourth consecutive increase after declining in 5 of the first 6 months of the year. Clothing prices rose 0.2 percent, and charges for apparel services increased 0.4 percent in October.

The medical care component increased 0.6 percent in October to a level 7.7 percent above a year ago . In October, the index for medical care commodities--prescription drugs, nonprescription drugs, and medical supplies--rose 0.3 percent. The index for medical care services increased 0.6 percent, with the costs of physicians' services and hospital rooms up 0.5 and 0.6 percent, respectively.

The index for entertainment rose 0.3 percent in October, the same as in September. The other goods and services component turned upward in October, increasing 0.4 percent.

CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W)--Seasonally Adjusted Changes

On a seasonally adjusted basis, the CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers rose 0.1 percent in October.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

REAL EARNINGS IN OCTOBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- Real average weekly earnings increased 0.1 percent from September to October after seasonal adjustment, according to preliminary data released by the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor. This increase stemmed from a 0.6 percent increase in average hourly earnings. This increase was partially offset by a 0.3 percent decrease in average weekly hours and a 0.1 percent increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W).

Data on average weekly earnings are collected from the payroll reports of private nonfarm establishments. Earnings of both full-time and part-time workers holding production or nonsupervisory jobs are included. Real average weekly earnings are calculated by adjusting earnings in current dollars for changes in the CPI-W.

Average weekly earnings increased by 1.6 percent between October of 1985 and 1986 as a result of a 2.2 percent increase in average hourly earnings, which was partially offset by a 0.6 percent decrease in average weekly hours. After adjustment for a 1.2 percent increase in the CPI-W over the same period, real average weekly earnings increased 0.4 percent. Before adjustment for seasonal change and deflation by the CPI-W, average weekly earnings were $306.40 in October 1986, compared with $301.54 a year earlier.

THE HOURLY EARNINGS INDEX

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) in dollars of constant purchasing power increased 0.3 percent between September and October. Compared with a year earlier, the HEI increased by 1.3 percent.
The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in overtime in manufacturing and interindustry employment shifts.

# # #

Week of December 8, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

More than 30,000 Korean conflict and Vietnam era veterans were placed in training positions under the Emergency Veterans' Job Training Act of 1983, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985. The act is jointly administered by the Labor Department and the Veterans Administration.

# # #

About 202,000 individuals were advised of their reemployment rights at time of separation from active duty by the Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985.

# # #

The Labor Department's Office of Veterans' Reemployment Rights helps eligible veterans, reservists and members of the National Guard regain their old civilian jobs. During the 1985 fiscal year, the office responded to about 30,000 inquiries about reemployment rights, according to the Labor Department's annual report for fiscal year 1985.

# # #

12/15/86

blacknewsdigest

NEWS
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
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Washington, D.C.
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Week of December 15, 1986

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REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

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Week of December 15, 1986

BLACK UNEMPLOYMENT RATE UNCHANGED IN NOVEMBER, BLS REPORTS

WASHINGTON -- The unemployment rate for black workers was 14.3 percent in November, showing little change from the previous month's rate of 14.4 percent, the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics reported.

The jobless rate for black adult men was 13.1 percent in November, compared to 13.5 percent in previous month. For adult black women, the November jobless rate was 12.6 percent, compared with 12.4 in October. Among teenagers, the rate was 35.1 percent in November, not much different from the 34.8 percent rate in October.

The Bureau reported that overall, the number of jobs on nonfarm business payroll rose in November and unemployment was unchanged. The overall unemployment rate was 6.9 percent, and the civilian worker rate was 7.0 percent. Both rates were the same as in September and October as well as in November a year earlier.

Nonagricultural payroll employment--as measured by the survey of business establishments--rose by 250,000 over the month, while civilian employment--as measured by the monthly survey of households--was little changed. During the economic recovery period that now covers 4 full years, the number of nonfarm payroll jobs has grown by more than 12 million, while total civilian employment has increased by over 11 million. As is typical in recoveries, however, the pace of job growth has slowed in the 2 most recent years.

Unemployment (Household Survey Data)

The number of unemployed persons was about unchanged in November at 8.3 million, after seasonal adjustment. The civilian worker unemployment rate remained at 7.0 percent. Unemployment rates for adult men (6.2 percent), adult women (6.1 percent), teenagers (18.4 percent), whites (6.1 percent), and blacks (14.3 percent) showed little or no change from October. The unemployment rate for Hispanics (9.5 percent) fell by 1 percentage point over the month.

The mean and median duration of unemployment were about unchanged, at 14.8 and 7.0 weeks, respectively. The numbers of job losers, job leavers, and reentrants to the labor force also were little different from October levels. By contrast, the total seeking jobs for the first time (new entrants) increased by 150,000 to 1.1 million over the month.

The number of persons employed part time for economic reasons--sometimes referred to as the partially unemployed--reversed the increase of the prior month with a decline of 220,000 to 5.6 million in November. This decrease occurred among persons who could not find full-time work.

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Civilian Employment and the Labor Force (Household Survey Data)

Civilian employment was little changed at 110.4 million, seasonally adjusted. A 275,000 employment increase among adult men was partially offset by a small decline in teenage employment, while employment among adult women was unchanged. The proportion of the civilian population that is employed edged up to 60.9 percent in November, matching the record high set in August.

The civilian labor force was little changed at 118.7 million in November, after seasonal adjustment. Over the past year, the labor force has grown by 2.1 million (after adjustment is made for revisions in the underlying population estimates that were introduced in January).

Industry Payroll Employment (Establishment Survey Data)

Total nonagricultural payroll employment, at 101.1 million, rose by 250,000 in November, seasonally adjusted. Almost all of the job growth was in the service-producing sector, continuing the recent pattern. In fact, the service-producing sector has accounted for all of the 2.4 million job expansion from a year earlier. In the goods-producing sector, over-the-year employment declines in mining and manufacturing were offset by gains in construction.

The largest over-the-month increase in the service-producing sector took place in the services industry--120,000--with both business and health services contributing to the increase. Elsewhere in the sector, employment rose in finance, insurance, and real estate and in transportation and public utilities, the latter partly due to the return of communications workers who had been on strike. Job totals in wholesale trade, retail trade, and government were little changed, after adjustment for seasonality. In retail trade, general merchandising, which usually expands in November due to pre-Christmas hiring, grew at a somewhat slower pace this November than is typical.

Employment in manufacturing edged up in November. Changes were small but generally on the upside. As reflected by the BLS index of diffusion, which is made up predominantly of manufacturing industries, over-the-month job gains were more widespread than at any time in the past year.

Construction employment dropped about in line with the usual seasonal expectation for November and, for the third straight month, was essentially unchanged after seasonal adjustment. Mining employment has changed little in the past 2 months, in contrast to the sharp losses earlier in the year.

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Weekly Hours (Establishment Survey Data)

Average weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls were 34.9 in November, up 0.2 hour, after seasonal adjustment. The manufacturing workweek also rose 0.2 hour to a relatively high 40.9 hours, while overtime hours remained unchanged at 3.5 hours.

The index of aggregate weekly hours of production or nonsupervisory workers on private nonagricultural payrolls rose by 0.7 percent to 119.5 (1977=100), after seasonal adjustment. The factory index was up by 0.9 percent to 93.5.

Hourly and Weekly Earnings (Establishment Survey Data)

Average hourly earnings were up 0.5 percent in November, and average weekly earnings increased 1.0 percent, seasonally adjusted. Prior to seasonal adjustment, average hourly earnings rose 4 cents to $8.85, while average weekly earnings were up $1.39 to $307.98. Compared to a year earlier, average hourly and weekly earnings rose by 19 cents and $6.61, respectively.

The Hourly Earnings Index (Establishment Survey Data)

The Hourly Earnings Index (HEI) was 170.7 (1977=100) in November, seasonally adjusted, an increase of 0.4 percent from October. For the 12 months ended in November, the increase was 2.3 percent. The HEI excludes the effects of two types of changes unrelated to underlying wage rate movements--fluctuations in manufacturing overtime and interindustry employment shifts. In dollars of constant purchasing power, the HEI increased 1.1 percent during the 12-month period ended in October.

# # #

Week of December 15, 1986

BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL URGES SORORITY MEMBERS TO HELP SOLVE ILLITERACY, OTHER PROBLEMS OF YOUTH

COLUMBIA S.C. -- Illiteracy, high school drop-out rates and lowered educational standards threaten the futures of young people and the nation and require community-based action, a U.S. Labor Department official said.

Eunice S. Thomas, a special assistant to Secretary of Labor William E. Brock and international president of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., urged some 1,700 members and guests of the black sorority regional conference here to become "part of the solution" to problems affecting youth.

Noting that at least 23 million Americans are functionally illiterate, 35 million more are only semi-literate and high school drop-out rates are as high as 50 percent in some areas, Thomas cited the relationship of reading and writing difficulties and failure to stay in school to other problems facing society today. Among them are unemployment or dead-end jobs, poverty, welfare dependency, crime, teenage pregnancy and alcohol and drug abuse, she said.

Asking her audience to "picture the year 2000," Thomas said:

"The number of skilled jobs in the United States has risen; the number of unskilled jobs is down. The number of jobs in our economy that require four or more years of college has increased by nearly 50 percent. And in those jobs we see today's young women and men--black and white, Hispanic and Oriental-- leading, managing, succeeding, advancing.

"You say this is only a dream? But a worthwhile and attainable dream."

Thomas cautioned against allowing this "beautiful picture" of the future to become "a dream deferred." She urged the sorority members to work through their business affiliations, community-based organizations, unions, and civic, religious and educational groups to help raise young people's educational attainment.

Lowered educational standards, she asserted, can have "a devastating effect on our nation's economy" and on U.S. industrial competitiveness. "You and I know that a well-trained, well educated work force will be the key to our economic success. . . as well as an answer to some of our most pressing domestic problems."

Federal approaches to the challenge, Thomas reported, include a new literacy and vocational training requirement in summer youth employment programs administered by the states under the Job Training Partnership Act.

The Labor Department is also lending voluntary support to "Project Literacy--U.S.", a nationwide effort to increase public awareness of and involvement in the problems of illiteracy, sponsored jointly by American Broadcasting Companies, Inc., and the Public Broadcasting Service, she said.

-more-

The Labor Department's Women's Bureau is working on a number of fronts to help economically disadvantaged young women, Thomas said.

For example, the Young Women's Christian Association (YWCA) is using Women's Bureau funds to develop a model program that would increase the employability of teen mothers, high school drop-outs and other young women with employment difficulties. YWCA projects in Boston and Miami offer remedial education, personal counseling and employment assistance to the women through a series of integrated community resources and activities, she said.

In another Women's Bureau project, girls attending Chicago's Orr High School are being encouraged to finish school and train for careers in nontraditional fields that promise better pay than "run-of-the-mill jobs," Thomas said.

In her speech, which received a standing ovation, Thomas said:

"As blacks, perhaps we ought to be a whole lot more concerned with 'looking out for our own.'"

She asked her audience: "Can you--and I--accept our social responsibilities as middle-class blacks to extend a powerful helping hand to youngsters who need to grow up in a more caring society? Or will we let the dreams of our youth die stillborn?"

# # #

Week of December 15, 1986

LARGE GAP IN PROPORTION OF BLACK, WHITE HIGH SCHOOL GRADS WHO GO ON TO COLLEGE

WASHINGTON -- While the proportion of 1985 high school graduates who enrolled in college set a record, a large gap still exists between black and white high school graduates who go on to college, according to a Labor Department report.

In October 1985, the proportion of black high school seniors who enrolled in college was 42 percent, compared with 59 percent for whites. During the 1970's, the proportion of blacks enrolled in college ranged between 46 and 48 percent.

According to the report, large differences by race also persist in labor force participation. Only 31 percent of the black college enrollees were in the labor force, campared with almost 47 percent of the whites.

Sharon R. Cohany, an economist with the department's Bureau of Labor Statistics and author of the report said one reason for this difference is that a higher proportion of black students sign up for 2-year institutions which are, on average, less expensive than 4 year colleges and universities.

The report also notes that leaving school before graduation particularly affects the labor force participation of black youth. Only 52 percent of black dropouts were in the labor force, compared with 72 percent of the white dropouts.

For the entire nation, a total of 612,000 youths dropped out of high school between 1984 and 1985, about the same number as in the previous two years but lower than in the 1970's reflecting mainly the declining teenage population.

Male dropouts were much more likely to be labor force participants than the women, a fourth of whom had family responsibilities. One study showed that many of the young women who dropped out of high school as sophmores in 1980 gave such family-related reasons as marrige or plans to marry (31 percent).

Reflecting their relatively low skill and experience levels, recent high school dropouts show extremely high unemployment rates--nearly 36 percent in 1985, according to the report.

Cohany writes: "Looking down the road at adulthood, the earnings situation can be bleak for those who do not complete high school" and their median earnings will lag behind their better-educated peers throughout their working lives.

-more-

For example, in 1984, year-round, full-time median earnings for 16 to 24 year-old college graduates was $16,470, compared with $11,331 for those with 4 years of high school and $9,551 for those with less than 4 years of high school.

Among the 25 to 64 year old workers, the gap in earnings was about the same: median annual earnings for college graduates was $27,777, compared with $18,350 for those with 4 years of high school, while workers with less than 4 years of high school earned $14,776.

Cohany concludes: "The exceptionally high unemployment rates and poor earnings prognosis for dropouts suggests that a lack of literacy is a serious problem for unemployed youth."

The article appeared in the Monthly Labor Review, published by the Labor Department's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

# # #

Week of December 15, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

The Task Force of Economic Adjustment and Worker Dislocation was appointed by Secretary of Labor William E. Brock in October 1985. The 21-member task force includes representatives from government, industry, labor, academia and the private economic research community.

# # #

The public employment service is a nationwide system which provides services to individual seeking employment, and to employers seeking workers. The system also facilitates the match of job seekers and employers within and among the States and performs basic work test activities for the States' unemployment compensation systems.

# # #

The U.S. Employment Service and its affiliated state agencies administer a labor certification program required by the Immigration and Nationality Act. In fiscal 1984, approximately 31,000 applications for permanent and temporary labor certifications were processed.

# # #

12/22/86

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NEWS
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DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
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Washington, D.C.
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Week of December 22, 1986

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IN THIS ISSUE:

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SPECIAL HOLIDAY ASSIGNMENT

BLACK WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE
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PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--NOVEMBER 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

NOTE TO THE EDITORS:

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Week of December 22, 1986

WORK, FAMILY BALANCE 'IN NATIONAL INTEREST,' SAYS BLACK LABOR DEPARTMENT OFFICIAL

PHILADELPHIA -- "Balancing work and family responsibilities is critical to our nation's economy and productivity," said Shirley M. Dennis, director of the Women's Bureau, U.S. Department of Labor.

"To remain competitive in the world market, the U.S. must ensure a strong economy and a productive work force; "accommodating the needs of working women and their families is an integral part of that agenda," she added.

In keynote remarks prepared for delivery before the Pennsylvania Coalition of 100 Black Women, Dennis noted that between now and the Year 2000, 80 percent of the new entrants into the work force will be women, minorities and immigrants.

As the chief advocate for the nation's 51 million working women, Dennis is concentrating on work-family concerns. The major issues to be addressed, she said, are dependent care, which includes both child care and eldercare; alternative work patterns such as flexitime, job-sharing and part-time work; and flexible benefit packages, sometimes called cafeteria-style plans, which allow employees to select benefits they need most. She also pointed out that community support systems, such as services provided by social and religious organizations, are important in creating the balance.

On the other side of the equation, Dennis emphasized that employers can also benefit from providing flexible and responsive workplaces. Increased productivity, improved morale, reduced absenteeism and lower turnover are among their incentives, she said.

The Women's Bureau, created in 1920, is the only federal agency with an exclusive mandate to promote employment opportunities for women. The bureau serves the interests and needs of working women, their families and their employers through its national office in Washington, D.C. and its 10 regional offices across the country.

# # #

Week of December 22, 1986

BLACK WOMAN OVERSEES SPECIAL HOLIDAY ASSIGNMENT

WASHINGTON -- Mollie McPhail, a career civil servant with the U.S. Department of Labor, had a holiday season assignment which, she says, gave "especially warm feelings to everyone involved."

McPhail's assignment was to coordinate a series of events during the week of December 15 for some 800 employees of the department's Employment Standards Administration (ESA) in the Washington, D.C., area.

The events served a twofold purpose-- to reach ESA employees and to help the needy, she says.

Activities to benefit the community included a bake sale, with proceeds donated to the department's "adopted" Hart Junior High School; food items, the price of admission to the two shows, were combined with the department's overall food drive for the needy.

McPhail, who has served with the Labor Department for nearly 20 years, says the support and enthusiasm these events generated were "most gratifying."

"That tone and enthusiam, for ESA Week" she adds, "started with Susan Meisinger, head of the Employment Standards Administration, and that upbeat tone was shared by support staff, managers and supervisors."

Describing ESA as a "people oriented agency," McPhail adds that ESA Week, an event initiated by Meisinger, has had many beneficial results.

Citing improved working relationships, stronger communication and pride in one's job and in the role of the agency, McPhail adds that in the end the public, too, benefits through more efficient response and administration of the various programs which serve the nation's work force.

Still glowing from the success of the week's activities, McPhail, a native of South Carolina and a long-time resident of Lanham, Md., adds:

"This year's activities for ESA Week were special, because the program provided an opportunity to share the spirit of the holiday season within and outside the Labor Department."

McPhail is staff assistant to Carol Gaudin, director, Office of Management, Administration and Planning, Employment Standards Administration, Washington, D.C.

# # #

Week of December 22, 1986

BLACK WOMEN TO PARTICIPATE IN EXECUTIVE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

WASHINGTON -- Seven black women with the U.S. Labor Department in Washington, D.C., have been selected to participate in the Women's Executive Leadership Program, sponsored by the Office of Personnel Management.

They are: Carolyn Alston, Ann Copeland, Joan R. Dishman, Darlene Farrar, Adoria Johnson, Barbara J. Ramseur and Dorothy Walker.

According to Elaine B. Murrell, who heads the Labor Department's Federal Women's Program, the year-long program is part of the department's effort to increase the number of women in GS grades 13 to 15.

She said the program is designed to groom women "who have demonstrated potential for managerial and executive level positions."

Participants, most of them at the GS-11 and GS-12 level, will receive training and job experience needed to prepare for advancement opportunities as supervisors, managers, and executives in the federal government.

Brief sketches of each participant follow:

--Carolyn Alston, a personnel management specialist with the Employment Standards Administration, joined the department in 1970 as a secretary. A resident of Hyattsville, Md., she studied at Southeastern University in Washington, D.C., where she received undergraduate degrees and a master's degree in business and public administration.

-Ann Copeland, a staffing specialist with the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB), joined the Labor Department in 1968 as a clerk-typist in the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management. A resident of Fort Washington, Md., she attended George Washington University, Washington, D.C. She has been with ILAB for the past six and a half years.

--Joan P. Dishman, a budget analyst with the Employment and Training Administration, began her 29-year federal career as a secretary. During her 14 years with the Labor Department, she has pursued her education through evening courses. The Washington, D.C., resident is the mother of seven children 18 to 30 years of age.

--Darlene Farrar, a personnel management specialist with the Mine Safety and Health Administration, joined the Labor Department in 1978. A resident of Hillcrest Heights, Md., she received a degree in business administration from St. Augustine's College, Raleigh, N.C., and her master's degree in public administration from Ohio State University.

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--Adoria Johnson, a management analyst with the Office of Labor Management Standards, joined the Labor Department in 1975 as a program analyst. A resident of Upper Marlboro, Md., she received her BA degree from Bishop College, Dallas. She did a year's graduate study at the University of Michigan and is pursuing graduate work at George Washington University and the University of Maryland.

--Barbara J. Ramseur, a labor economist with the Employment Standards Administration, joined the Labor Department in 1979 as an equal employment opportunity assistant. A resident of Silver Spring, Md., she has a bachelor of arts degree in business administration from the University of the District of Columbia.

--Dorothy Walker, employee development specialist, Bureau of Labor Statistics, joined the Labor Department in 1980. A resident of Fairfax, Va., she received her undergraduate and master's degrees in education from the University of Virginia at Charlottesville.

The program includes orientation, formal classroom training, rotational assignments of up to two months designed to provide participants with practical management experience and exposure, a one-week workshop designed to clarify the different roles of management, and the development of an individual career action plan outlining future development needs.

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Week of December 22, 1986

PRODUCER PRICE INDEXES--NOVEMBER 1986

WASHINGTON -- The Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.2 percent from October to November seasonally adjusted, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor reported. The index had risen 0.3 percent in October and 0.4 percent in each of the 2 months before that. Prices received by producers of intermediate goods also increased 0.2 percent over the month, following a 0.3 percent drop in October and a 0.5 percent rise in September. After climbing 1.6 percent from September to October, the crude materials price index was unchanged in November.

Among finished goods, consumer food prices turned down slightly, following an October advance. The index for energy goods, which had decreased substantially a month before, showed no change in November. After an unusually large October rise, prices for finished goods other than foods and energy resumed the more modest upward pace that has characterized the last several years.

Before seasonal adjustment, the Producer Price Index for Finished Goods moved up 0.1 percent in November to 290.7 (1967=100).

From November 1985 to November 1986, the Finished Goods Price Index fell 1.9 percent. During the same period, consumer food prices increased 4.1 percent, the index for energy goods declined 37.9 percent, consumer goods other than foods and energy rose 3.0 percent, and capital equipment prices moved up 2.2 percent. The index for intermediate goods decreased 4.1 percent in the 12 months ended in November 1986, and prices for crude goods were 8.6 percent lower than they had been a year earlier.

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Week of December 22, 1986

FILLERS FROM THE U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

About 58,100 workers were certified as eligible to receive benefits under the Trade Adjustment Assistance Act, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1986. Benefits to workers who have been dislocated or displaced include training, counseling, job search and relocation payments.

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More than 328,000 apprentices received training, and more than 94,000 new apprentices entered training, during fiscal year 1985, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for Fiscal Year 1985. The apprenticeship program is administered by the department's Bureau of Apprenticeship and Training.

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The Migrant and Seasonal Farmworkers Program served 52,880 persons from July 1984 to June 1985, according to the Labor Department's Annual Report for fiscal year 1985. Services include training, emergency assistance, health and medical care, and nutritional services.

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Week of December 22, 1986

NOTE TO THE EDITORS:

Please be advised that this news packet will not be published for the next two weeks.

We will resume publication with the issue for the week of January 12, 1987.

Best wishes for a joyous Holiday Season and a Happy New Year.

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